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U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Medford District Office
3040 Biddle Road
Medford, Oregon 97504

May 1994



Issues and Alternatives for Management of the Hellgate Recreation Area of the Rogue River



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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Medford District Office
3040 Biddle Road
Medford, Oregon 97504



IN REPLY REFER TO:

8351.2(11785)
(MW:fna)

May 9, 1994

Dear Friend of the Rogue River:

The BLM and cooperating agencies having management responsibilities within the 27 miles of the National Wild and Scenic Rogue River's Hellgate Recreation Area, or recreation section, are in the process of revising the recreation area management plan (RAMP) which will guide the management of the area for the next several years. The purpose of the revised RAMP is to align recreational use levels to achieve the purposes of Public Law 90-542, October 2, 1968, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

We are currently designing alternatives and the purpose of this document is to specifically identify various solutions (alternatives) for resolving the identified planning problems (issues).

We ask that you consider each of the tentative alternatives that have been developed along with the goals and objectives described for each alternative. Do you agree that the important resource issues (problems, opportunities, or concerns) have been addressed in the alternatives? Do you feel the various alternatives present a reasonable range of possible ways by which the resources of the Hellgate Recreation Area could be managed? If you feel something has been missed, that a particular situation has not been looked at properly, or if you have additional reasonable solutions to the issues, we are very interested in hearing from you.

The range of alternatives does not include BLM's preferred alternative which will be developed the fall/winter of 1994 after all the contracted and interdisciplinary team's inventories and studies are completed. Do you have suggestions about how the preferred alternative should be developed?

You can share your ideas and opinions with us in three ways:

1. Write to us.
2. Attend one of the open houses (see page 1).
3. Complete the Public Response Form at the back of this document and return it to us.

For a comment to be most helpful, it should relate to an issue or problem that is within the legal responsibilities of the Bureau of Land Management to administer and it must be a concern or conflict that can be resolved in the Hellgate RAMP planning process. The public comment period will end on July 15, 1994. Written comments may be sent to:

Gretchen Lloyd
Grants Pass Resource Area Manager
Bureau of Land Management
3040 Biddle Road
Medford, Oregon 97504

For more information, or an additional copy of the alternatives and issues document, write to the above address or call: Mike Walker, Planning Team Leader, (503) 770-2428, or Jim Leffmann, Rogue River Manager, (503) 770-2275.

Sincerely,

Gretchen Lloyd
Grants Pass Area Manager

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Issues and Alternatives for Management of the Hellgate Recreation Area of the Rogue River

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Acronyms

| | |
|-------|--|
| ATV | All terrain vehicle |
| BLM | Bureau of Land Management |
| CB | Citizen band |
| EA | Environmental assessment |
| EIS | Environmental impact statement |
| EPA | Environmental Protection Agency |
| dba | dB or decibel's "A" scale |
| DEQ | Department of Environmental Quality |
| DSL | Division of State Land (State of Oregon) |
| FSEIS | Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Habitat for Late Successional and Old-Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl |
| GIS | Geographic information system |
| GPRA | Grants Pass Resource Area |
| ID | Interdisciplinary |
| MDO | Medford District Office |
| MFB | Motorized fishing boat |
| MFP | Management framework plan |
| MTB | Motorized tour boat |
| NEPA | National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 |
| NMFS | National Marine Fisheries Service (U.S. Department of Commerce) |
| OHV | Off-highway vehicle |
| ODFW | Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife |
| OPRD | Oregon Parks and Recreation Department |
| ORS | Oregon Revised Statutes |
| OSMB | Oregon State Marine Board |
| PFD | Personal flotation device |
| RAMP | Recreation area management plan |
| RMP | Resource management plan |
| SNF | Siskiyou National Forest |
| USC | United States Congress |
| USCG | U.S. Coast Guard |
| USDA | U.S. Department of Agriculture |
| USDI | U.S. Department of Interior |
| USFS | U.S. Forest Service |
| USFWS | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service |
| W&SR | Wild and scenic river |

I. OPEN HOUSES

Medford:

June 9, 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Medford District Office
Bureau of Land Management
3040 Biddle Road
Medford, Oregon

Grants Pass:

June 13, 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

City of Grants Pass Council Chambers
101 NW. A Street
Grants Pass, Oregon

The objectives of the open houses will be to answer questions about the proposed alternatives, explain where we are in the planning process, help you provide substantive comments on the alternatives and issues document, and provide an opportunity for you to visit informally with the planning team.

Comments concerning the issues and proposed alternatives must be received by July 15, 1994.

Submit written comments and suggestions concerning this proposal to Gretchen Lloyd, Grants Pass Resource Area Manager, or Jim Leffmann, Rogue River Program Manager, Medford District Office, Bureau of Land Management, 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, Oregon 97504.

Direct questions about the issues and alternatives to Michael Walker, Planning Team Leader, telephone (503) 770-2428, or Jim Leffmann, telephone (503) 770-2275.

II. MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

In 1968 the United States Congress designated the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as the lead agencies for managing the land and water within the identified Rogue National Wild and Scenic River corridor (i.e., 84 miles from its confluence with the Applegate River downstream to the Lobster Creek Bridge). The portion of the river from the mouth of the Applegate River downstream to Marial, a distance of approximately 47 miles, is administered by the Medford District Office (MDO), BLM. The lower 37 miles are located within the boundaries of the Siskiyou National Forest and are administered by the USFS. The outstandingly remarkable values for which the Rogue River was designated are its natural scenic environment, the fisheries resource, and the recreational opportunities it provides. While not specifically singled out by Congress, Federal managers of the river also consider the wildlife and cultural resources to be significant.

In 1970 this same 84-mile segment was designated as a component of the Oregon State Scenic Waterways System which is administered by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD).

The lead Federal agencies acknowledge that the land and water resources within the wild and scenic corridor are managed by a host of local, regional, State, and other Federal agencies. It is important that all agencies coordinate their activities to assure effective and efficient management. This coordination is not easy. Often the legislative authorities granted to agencies create overlapping responsibilities in some areas while also leaving management gaps in others.

The roles and responsibilities of the various managing and regulatory agencies in the Hellgate Recreation Area were identified in a background paper entitled, "Agency Responsibility Background Paper for Revising the Hellgate Recreation Area Management Plan" (Walker 1994). The process of developing this paper provided each agency

representative the opportunity to tell their story and share it with the other agencies and the public. This early involvement by agency stakeholders in the planning process should help facilitate future collaborative decision making.

Important roles were identified for Josephine County government and State government through implementation of the county comprehensive land use plan and the State land use and regulatory responsibilities for the Rogue River. Federal roles included sensitive species for the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); the National Environmental Policy Act and clean air for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); boating safety for the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG); and flood control and fishery enhancement for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

III. THE PLANNING AREA

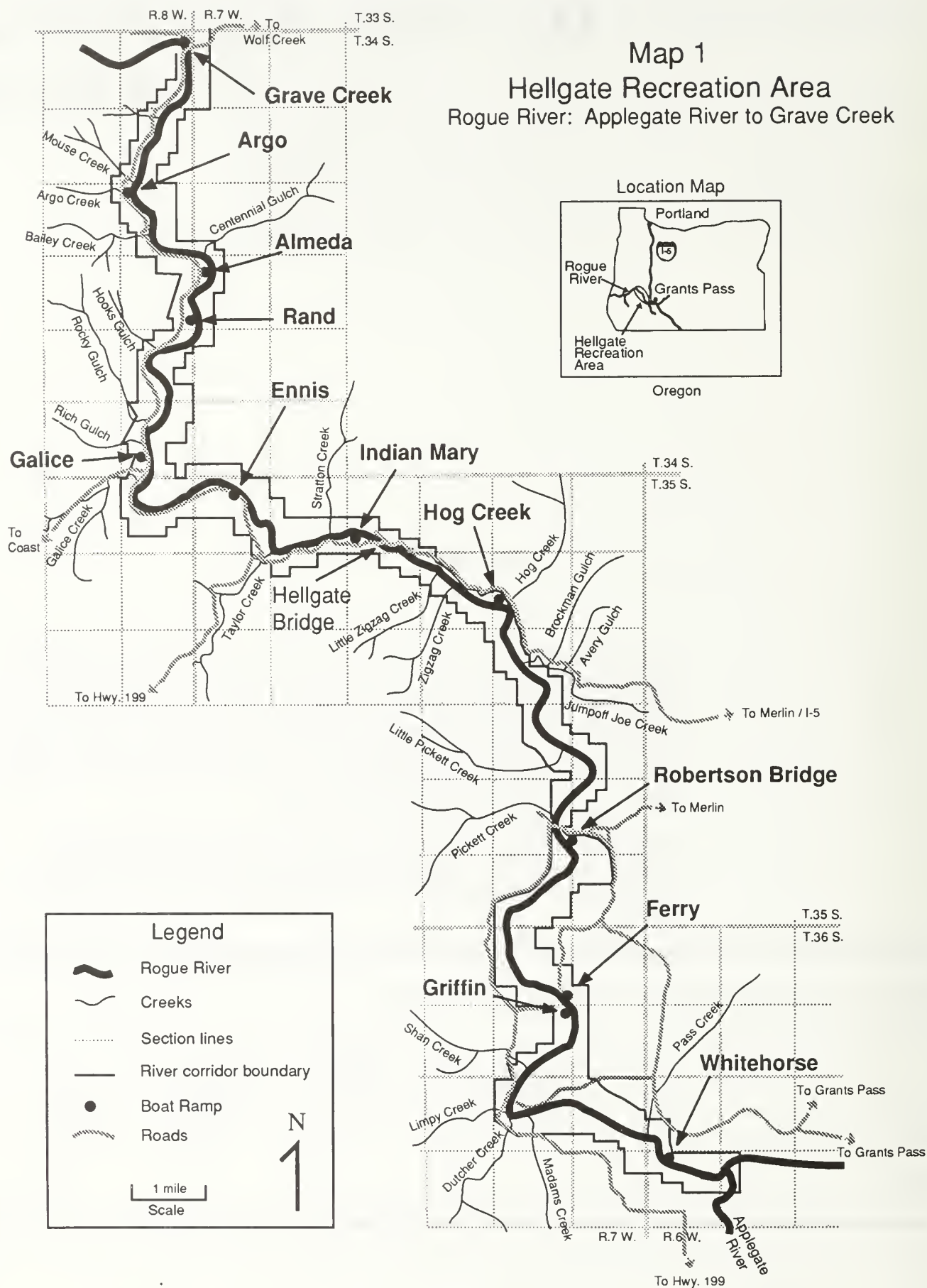
The Hellgate Recreation Area, the first 27 miles of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River from the Applegate River to Grave Creek, is administered by the BLM. It is classified as a recreational river area. A recreational river was defined by Congress as a river that is readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development on its shoreline, and that may have been impounded or diverted in the past. This recreational river area will be managed to provide, or restore, a wide range of public outdoor recreation opportunities and water-oriented recreational facilities.

The Hellgate Recreation Area (see map 1), hereafter referred to as the planning area, contains approximately 7,800 acres of land located within Josephine County, Oregon. Approximately 71 percent (5,500 acres) is managed by BLM. Land ownership is shown below.

Table 1 - Ownership Within the Hellgate Recreation Area;

| | Private | Bureau of Land Management | Josephine County | State of Oregon | Totals |
|---------|---------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------|
| Acres | 1,730 | 5,500 | 260 | 290 | 7,780 |
| Percent | 22 | 71 | 3 | 4 | 100 |

Map 1
Hellgate Recreation Area
Rogue River: Applegate River to Grave Creek



IV. THE PLANNING PROCESS

In 1990 the U.S. Department of the Interior (USDI), BLM, MDO recognized the need to revise the Hellgate Recreation Area Management Plan (RAMP) and the planning process was funded to begin in 1991 (USDI, BLM, MDO, GPRA 1991).

The need for action is based on BLM visitor use reports that show major increases in watercraft-based visitor use activities, from approximately 15,000 visitors in 1972 to approximately 118,000 visitors in 1991 (Austermuehle 1992); on the results of a BLM funded recreation use study by Oregon State University; and on two BLM scoping efforts which identified visitor use conflicts. The BLM funded recreation use study was conducted by Oregon State University's Department of Forest Resources in 1992 (Shindler and Shelby 1993). The results highlighted the concern of on-river conflicts among users, particularly between jet boats and floaters during the summer months, and between jet boats and anglers in the fall fishing season.

Two scoping processes were conducted by BLM from May 1991 to December 1992 (Walker and Littlefield 1992) and from October 1 through November 30, 1993. Approximately 3,000 written responses were analyzed during these scoping efforts to revise the Hellgate RAMP. The issues identified by the public addressed several areas of concern: possible impacts to river resources from visitor use, health and safety concerns, socioeconomic benefits, motorized versus nonmotorized boating, and the social carrying capacity of the river. Social carrying capacity relates to the question of the increased visitor use altering or degrading the recreational experience. The jet boat or motorized tour boat (MTB) service was clearly identified as the major point of controversy among users of the Hellgate Recreation Area. The common interests of all users and/or visitors were the opportunity to view scenery and wildlife, to be in a natural setting, and to enjoy the river. The BLM is concerned with protecting the recreational resources and reducing visitor use conflicts within the Hellgate Recreation Area.

In October 1993 the BLM made a decision to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to revise the Hellgate RAMP (USDI, BLM, MDO 1993). The EIS may, in effect, amend or supplement BLM's existing Josephine Management Framework Plan (MFP) or a future MDO Resource Management Plan (RMP). The EIS will include a thorough analysis of the impacts of implementing a range of alternatives. This will include a preferred alternative which will be developed by blending the best features of each of the other alternatives considered in the plan.

The purpose of the plan is to ensure recreational use levels are in alignment with the purposes of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of October 2, 1968, hereinafter referred to as the "Act" (Public Law 90-542).

V. SCHEDULE

The planning schedule has three general phases: issues and alternatives, EIS, and implementation.

Schedule - Phase I, Issues and Alternatives

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Goals and objectives developed for the plan (plan to be revised through EA process). | 5/28/91 |
| Formal EA scoping occurred | 5/29/9-8/2/91 |
| Informal scoping continued | 8/3/91-12/31/92 |
| Preliminary issues identified | 2/93 |
| Inventory and study program (approximately 80 percent complete). | 3/9-5/94 |
| Goals and objectives for the plan redeveloped (plan to be revised through EIS process). | 9/16/93 |
| Preliminary issues and alternatives identified. | 9/16/93 |
| Formal EIS scoping occurred. | 10/1/93-11/30/93 |
| Issues identified and described in detail. | 5/9/94 |
| Proposed range of management alternatives identified in detail. | 5/9/94 |
| Open houses held on the issues and proposed alternatives, excluding the preferred alternative. The preferred alternative will not be developed until completion of the fisheries studies. | |
| Open House - Medford, Oregon | 6/9/94 |
| Open House - Grants Pass, Oregon | 6/13/94 |
| Public comment period. | 5/9/94-7/15/94 |

Schedule - Phase II, Environmental Impact Statement

| | |
|---|------------------|
| EIS prepared that addresses each alternative, excluding the preferred alternative. The EIS will identify the physical, biological, social, and economic consequences of implementing each alternative. | Winter 1994/1995 |
| Preferred alternative will be identified. | Winter 1994/1995 |
| The preferred alternative will probably be a composite of several alternatives and will be incorporated into the draft plan. | |
| Draft plan and draft EIS completed and distributed for public review and comment. | Summer 1995 |
| Public meetings and/or open houses held on the draft plan and EIS. | Summer 1995 |
| Draft plan and EIS revised into the final plan and final EIS. | Fall/Winter 1995 |

Schedule - Phase III, Implementation

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Begin plan implementation. | Late 1995 |
| Begin plan monitoring, periodic review, and update | Ongoing |

VI. MANAGEMENT COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES



A. Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

Management common to all alternatives for the Hellgate Recreation Area is found in the Congressional designation decision. A 27-mile stretch of the Rogue River from the confluence of the Applegate River to Grave Creek was found to meet Congress's objective for a recreational segment of a National Wild and Scenic River. The Rogue River possesses outstandingly remarkable values and characteristics to be preserved and protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Rogue River in the Hellgate Recreation Area is to be preserved in its free-flowing condition to protect its water quality and to maintain its undisturbed condition.

The Hellgate Recreation Area will be administered in such manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused it to be included in said system without limiting other uses that do not substantially interfere with public use and enjoyment of these values. In such administration, primary emphasis shall be given to protecting its aesthetic, scenic, historic, archaeologic, and scientific features. Other resources may be utilized and other activities permitted to the extent that they do not have a direct and adverse effect on the cultural values, fisheries resource, natural scenic environment, recreational opportunities, or wildlife habitat.

B. Land Use Decisions

The BLM-administered land and water within the Hellgate Recreation Area (approximately 5,500 acres) is allocated to wild and scenic river through the BLM Josephine Management Framework Plan (MFP). It is also allocated to wild and scenic river in the preferred alternative of the draft BLM, resource management plan (RMP)/environmental impact statement (EIS) (USDI, BLM, MDO 1992). The land and water allocation for the Hellgate Recreation Area is and will continue to be wild and scenic river.

The revised Hellgate RAMP will be consistent with the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) on Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (USDA, USFS; USDI, BLM 1994). It will also be consistent with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy, a strategy designed to maintain and restore the productivity and resiliency of riparian and aquatic ecosystems. This strategy applies to all alternatives.

VII. GOAL FOR THE ENTIRE PLANNING AREA



Under all alternatives, the goal for the Hellgate Recreation Area is to allow for continuation of compatible uses, while providing a wide range of public outdoor recreational opportunities and minimizing conflicts. These recreational opportunities would be provided to the extent that they: do not substantially impair the natural beauty of the river area; diminish its aesthetics, fish and wildlife, scientific and recreational values; and consider the rights and interests of private property owners.

There are nine overall objectives for the entire planning area. Management actions would be taken to prevent, stop, or reverse the following unacceptable conditions in the planning area:

- A. Any riparian area that is in a state of declining health.
- B. Any riverbank that is actively eroding at such a rate that water quality and fish habitat are adversely affected.
- C. Any significant health or safety hazard caused by human use.
- D. Any damage to protected species or critical habitat caused by human use.
- E. Any significant archaeological, geological, or historical sites, or recreational values that are eroding or being irreparably damaged by human use to the point that they are in danger of being lost.
- F. Any significant degradation of water quality due to human use.
- G. Any significant fish population decreases caused by human use.
- H. Any significant damage to private land and improvements within the planning area resulting from public use.

VIII. PLANNING ISSUES



Issues can be unresolved questions about management actions and/or the use of a resource which may have significant or unacceptable environmental impacts.

The following describes the significant natural resources, major recreational activities, and other conditions that exist in the Hellgate Recreation Area. Associated with each of these resources, activities, and conditions are issues which are problems, opportunities, or public concerns needing to be resolved. By resolving these issues, resources such as soil, water, fish and wildlife species, and habitat would be improved; activities such as motorized boating, floating, boat angling, or camping would be enhanced; and conditions involving public safety, vandalism, or fire will be managed properly. The BLM needs to know whether the issues that were identified during scoping are adequately explained and especially whether the alternatives represent reasonable ways to resolve the issues.

All of the recommended planning issues share one topic: the level of different types of recreation use on the river. How much recreation use can and should the river support? Total visitors to the Hellgate Recreation Area were estimated to be over 650,000 in 1991. This included approximately 118,000 people visiting the river by watercraft (see figure 1). The general rationale for all the possible planning issues is to provide a range of rewarding recreational opportunities while protecting the river resource. The order of the following planning issues reflects the level of public and agency interest.

A. Motorized Boating

How should motorized boating, both commercial and private, be managed (e.g., how many, what type, permitted season, river reach, mix between commercial and private, etc.)?

The increase in the number of visitors using motorboats, especially MTBs, has prompted concerns over conflicts between motorized boating and nonmotorized float boating, boat fishing, and landowners (see figure 2). Motorized boats are defined as boats with a motor, regardless of the horsepower rating. Motorized boating contributes to competition for fishing areas. Many anglers and other users resent the noise, wake, and potential safety problems of motorized boating. The issue also includes a concern over streambank erosion/deposition as it affects the condition of riparian areas, loss of private land, and possible impacts to sensitive species (i.e., fish). The visitor use conflicts are most evident during the hot summer weekends and the fall fishing season.

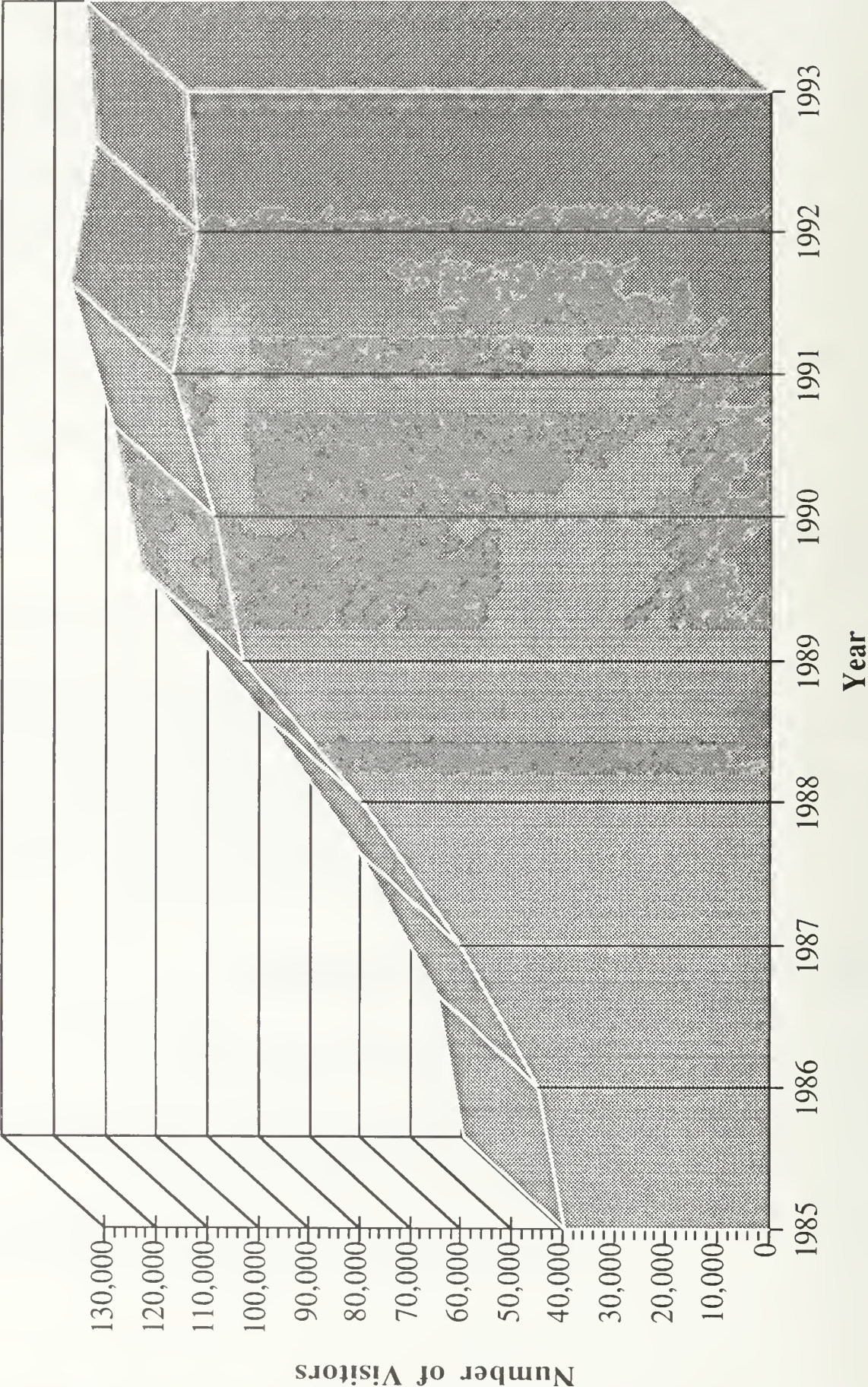
B. Nonmotorized Float Boating

How should nonmotorized float boating be managed (e.g., how much, what kind, permitted season, mix between commercial and private, etc.)?

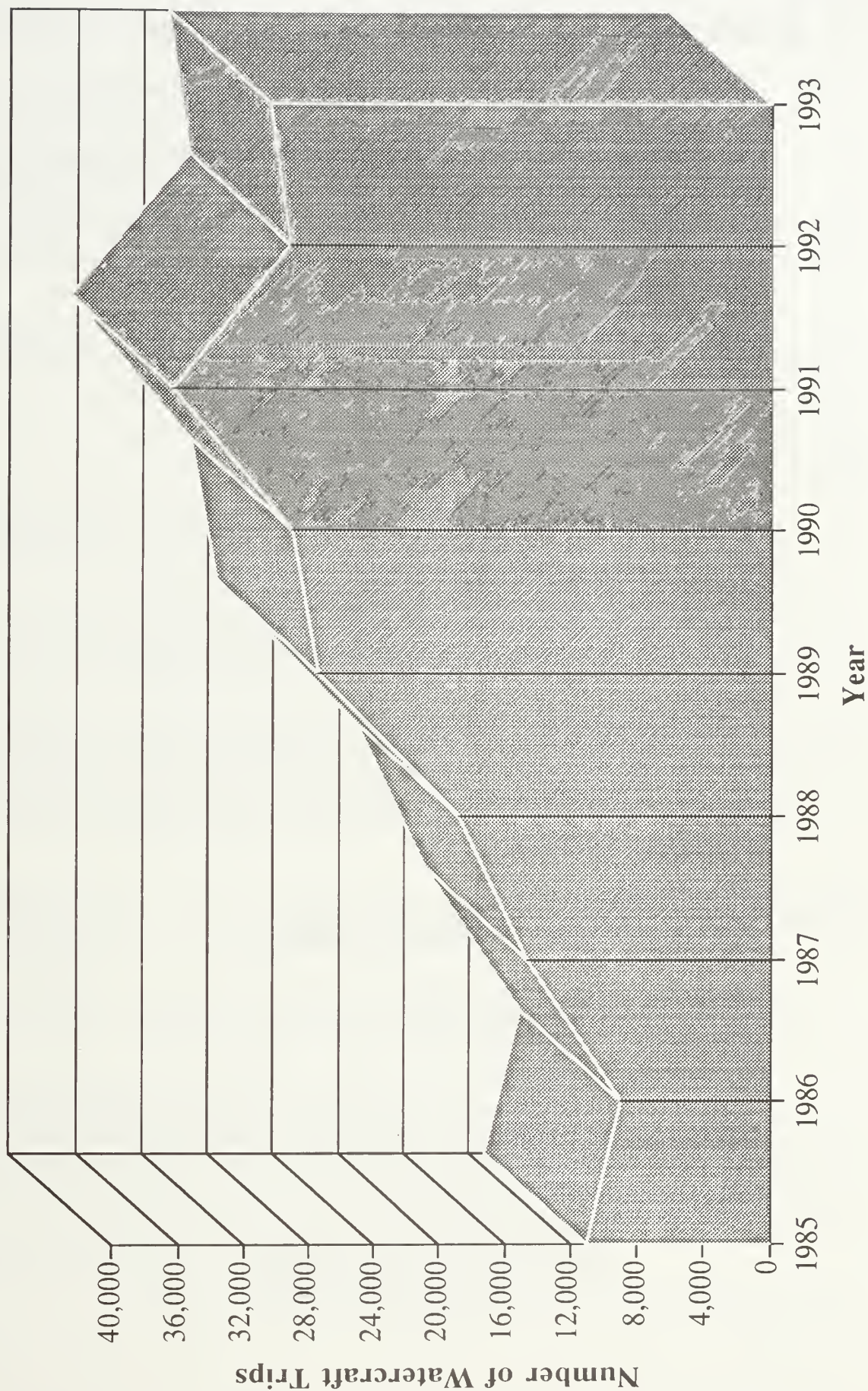
The growth of nonmotorized float boating has prompted concerns over conflicts between nonmotorized float boaters and motorized boaters, anglers, and landowners. The social problems are most evident during the hot summer weekends (see figure 2). Does visitor use by nonmotorized float boating affect sensitive species?

Nonmotorized float boating means boats without a motor. Nonmotorized float boating excludes those drift boats without a motor which are primarily used for fishing.

Figure 1 - Visitor Use
Overall Trend in Visitors by Watercraft



**Figure 2 - Watercraft Trips
Overall Trend for All Watercraft Trips**



C. Commercial Services or Activities

How should commercial services or activities within the Hellgate Recreation Area of the Rogue River be managed (e.g., how much, what kind, etc.)?

There are no limits on the number of commercial services permitted (e.g., guided or outfitted services) on the Hellgate section of the Rogue River. Is there a need to establish a level of commercial use that is appropriate for serving the public need? Currently commercial services and activities such as raft rental and shuttle driving are not permitted by BLM. What commercial services or activities should be subject to permit and at what level?

The number of commercial permittees are not limited in the Hellgate Recreation Area under current management. Visitors to the river by water have the choice to either have a private trip or employ the services of a commercial outfitter.

D. User Fees

Should user fees be levied for all visitor use by watercraft within the Hellgate Recreation Area of the Rogue River? How can fees that are collected be reinvested in management on the ground?

Visitors using guides pay for their share of the cost of managing the river resources through the commercial fees that permitted outfitters pay. Should private users pay their share of the cost of management services and facilities provided?

An adequate and stable funding mechanism is essential for resource protection, visitor services, facility development, operation, maintenance and trash collection, as well as access acquisition. There is increasing pressure for BLM to obtain a “fair” return for recreation investments and services provided by public lands. This may in part translate to establishing and/or increasing recreation and user fees to offset the cost of providing recreation services.

E. Nonmotorized Boat Fishing

How should a quality nonmotorized boat fishing experience be maintained or enhanced (e.g., how much, what kind, permitted season, mix between commercial and private watercraft use, etc.)?

The nonmotorized boat fishing experience issue centers around: competition for fishing areas, angler versus boating conflicts (i.e., boating across fishing water), biological health of fisheries resource, and noise and safety conflicts between nonmotorized fishing watercraft users and motorboat users (see figure 2). The jet boat or motorized tour boat (MTB) service was clearly identified by anglers as a major point of controversy.

Oregon State fishing regulations, such as bag limits, season-of-use, catch and release, barbless hook, etc., also have a major impact on the fishing experience. Fishing regulations will not be addressed in this planning effort.

F. Recreational Opportunities

What types of recreational opportunities should be provided?

1. How and Where Should Camping be Managed?

Under the present plan, the BLM-administered land from the Applegate River to Hellgate Park is a day-use only area. Overnight camping is allowed from Hellgate Park to Almeda Park on river right and from Almeda Park to Grave Creek on both sides of the river, except for private land or land posted as day-use only. Camping is limited to 14 days.

There is a degree of competition for camping sites in the Hellgate Recreation Area which is expected to increase. This competition is especially intense during the peak use periods when demand exceeds supply. There is the potential for camping activities to impact the physical and biological environments. How should BLM contribute to the developed and undeveloped camping opportunities while protecting river resources? What level and type of development are appropriate?

2. How and Where Should a Trail System be Managed?

The number and primitive quality of trails within the Hellgate Recreation Area restricts access for recreationists. A trail system to accommodate a broad range of visitors (e.g., hikers, equestrians, anglers, bicyclists, off-highway vehicles (OHVs), etc.) could be developed to improve access opportunities to the Hellgate Recreation Area and adjacent public lands.

Many of the existing trails were primarily developed over the years by visitors seeking river access. Some of the trails would require reconstruction along old roads, abandoned trails and mining ditches. Others would need new construction in areas where no trails currently exist. The trail system could consist of multiple-use (i.e., hiking, equestrian, mountain bike, OHVs, etc.) or restricted use (hiking only) trails. Some trails could be designated day use only, while others could allow both day and overnight use.

3. Should There be Administrative and/or Visitor Center Sites and Where Should They be Located?

The Rand Recreation Area is identified in the current RAMP as the best site to provide a visitor information, campground and administration center as a hub for Rogue River visitors. The site could provide camping and day-use facilities, visitor information and permit administration for both wild and recreation section visitors.

A visitor center could provide educational and tourist information for people interested in the Hellgate Recreation Area. The center could focus on the entire Rogue River while at the same time providing information for tourists in southwestern Oregon. Information could include such themes as: the history of river navigation, Native American life along the river, mining history, the history of land use near the river, how to use the river safely, and ways to enjoy and appreciate the river today.

Should there be administrative and/or visitor center sites? What about the value of such sites at Hog Creek, Merlin, or Grants Pass?

4. What Type of Day-Use Areas Should be Provided?

The following day use activities are occurring now: fishing, gold panning, gold dredging, wildlife observation, rock hounding, picnicking, sightseeing, and photography. What type of day use recreational opportunities should be provided? Should there be more “watchable wildlife” sites? Should there be areas designated as wildlife reserves/no hunting areas? This could reduce the possibility of hunting accidents by keeping hunters away from residential areas and areas used by other recreationists.

5. What Action Should be Taken to Manage Public Access?

There are many launch and landing sites with crowding problems and rude behavior occurring during periods of high use. Are additional or improved boat ramps and fishing access sites needed? Should vehicular access be regulated?

G. Visitor Services

How should visitor services be provided?

1. What Level of Management Presence Should be Provided?

A BLM representative focusing on active interaction with visitors to BLM-administered land is the most labor intensive form of management presence. Other forms of management presence can be signs, brochures, staff available at facilities, media contacts, personnel speaking to groups (such as at schools and in campgrounds) and uniformed personnel carrying out duties other than visitor contacts.

Rising activity requires that use be monitored closely to ensure protection of the river’s outstandingly remarkable values. A more visible management presence could help to ensure professional guiding services, visitor health and safety, enhance visitor’s recreation experience, and decrease visitor conflicts. These improvements can occur by BLM making decisions based on information obtained through visitor contacts. Improvements can also occur through management presence providing education to visitors on subjects such as river safety, outdoor use ethics, permit requirements, commercial guide requirements, orientation, natural resources, and cultural resources.

2. What Type of Educational Effort Should be Provided?

Education programs are intended to inform the public about river values. Tilden in 1957 defined interpretation to be an educational activity “...which attempts to reveal meanings and relationships through the use of original objects, by first hand experience and by illustrative media, rather than simply to communicate factual information.”

Interpretive services can promote responsible visitor use by revealing information about geologic, botanical, zoological, and cultural features of the area. Such services can shed light on management practices and how to enjoy the outdoors within an atmosphere of widely varying recreational activities. Educational programs are intended to reveal information that will help visitors gain respect for the resources, other visitors, and the managing agencies; thereby enhancing visitors’ experiences, promoting wise use, and reducing visitor conflicts.

3. What Type of Partnerships Should be Formed?

What types of partnerships should be established to support management of the Hellgate Recreation Area? How can partnerships with individuals, groups, organizations, Josephine County, State of Oregon, and Federal agencies be best established? Partnerships could be sought with all interested stakeholders who have a common interest in a river resource or in some facet of management. Stakeholder understanding and ownership is especially important (e.g., ownership could promote the stewardship of river resources by the visitor). Partners can share in protecting resources and visitors, promoting wise use, and reducing conflicts between users or types of visitor use. How could partners share ownership, funding, staffing, and/or management of the Hellgate Recreation Area?

The BLM presently has many informal and formal partnerships with stakeholders (e.g., veteran projects, scouts involved in trails and other projects, Trout Unlimited river clean up and adopt a river segment, annual river cleanup day participants, scenic easement landowners, outfitters, etc.).

H. Law Enforcement

What levels and types of BLM river-related law enforcement are necessary and/or appropriate? Law enforcement activities totally funded by other agencies will not be addressed in this planning effort.

Scoping, thus far, has indicated that the law enforcement effort, as it is presently structured, is insufficient to meet existing needs. Increased BLM law enforcement presence can help alleviate the following problems: illegal guiding, trash dumping, violation of boating rules, river traffic management, and watercraft operation hazards.

IX. RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES



The primary recreational activities within the planning area are fishing, boating, camping, picnicking, sightseeing, and lodging. Boating, however, is the only activity being considered for an allocation and rationing system. Camping and lodging use levels can be regulated by the number of sites/rooms set aside or developed for camping/lodging use. Overall, numbers of anglers on the Hellgate section would, to a large degree, be determined by the number of boats permitted on the river and the status of fish populations. Most natural resources such as wildlife, vegetation, water, historical, and archeological values can be managed by providing for known biological needs or conforming with established policy requirements. Regulation of boating use is much more difficult because it is primarily based on social considerations, such as crowding and/or safety and possible adverse impacts to natural resources, such as fish and soil.

In considering solutions to the various issues in the Hellgate Recreation Area, a wide range of possibilities exist. Some solutions to the issues could create a more developed environment with higher use. At the other end of the spectrum some solutions to the issues could result in a lower level of development with less public use.

For many years the Hellgate Recreation Area has provided a wide range of recreation opportunities in a generally natural but roaded environment. Four alternatives have been developed which continue this general philosophy of management and present solutions to the issues which have been identified. Alternatives which would change the Hellgate Recreation Area into a high density park on one hand, or a primitive area on the other, have been determined to be unreasonable and have been dismissed. For example a 100 percent nonmotorized boating alternative was not considered reasonable as motorized boating, including MTBs, was considered a legitimate and traditional use when the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act was passed.

Each alternative analyzed in the revised Hellgate RAMP/EIS process will propose varying management prescriptions that alter the commodity production or demand (i.e., watercraft use) and amenity outputs from BLM-administered lands. Prescriptions for visitor services, recreational facilities, and the availability of recreational opportunities (i.e., watercraft use) will also be addressed for each alternative.

Visitor use will be estimated for the following categories of use:

- Motorized tour boat (commercial jet boat)
- Private floats
- Guided floats (commercial float)
- Private anglers (drift boat)
- Private anglers (bank)
- Guided anglers (commercial drift boat)
- Day use
- Campground
- Lodging
- Miscellaneous activities

A description of a range of RAMP/EIS alternatives is identified in the following sections. It does not include BLM's preferred alternative which will be developed the fall/winter of 1994 after all the contracted and interdisciplinary team's inventories and studies are completed.

The range of alternatives includes many ideas received from the public. For example, representatives of 10 local businesses submitted a letter recommending a separate alternative "E", the Oregon Guides and Packers supported alternative E, the Shan Creek/Galice Citizen Advisory Committee recommended an array of alternatives to be analyzed, and Trout Unlimited submitted an alternative redesigning alternative C. Elements of most

of these recommendations are included in the range of alternatives, A through D. These recommendations, along with other public letters, are available from BLM upon request.

The physical, biological, social, and economic impacts or consequences of implementing each alternative will be analyzed later in the draft EIS.

A. Alternative A: Fewer Watercraft and Less Visitor Use

The objectives of this alternative would be to improve natural resource conditions, significantly reduce watercraft use levels, and provide recreational opportunities in a less crowded setting. The character of the area would remain in a generally natural appearing condition. The sights, sounds, and overall level of interactions between individuals or groups would be low to moderate. The watercraft use levels would be managed at a level consistent with the time before the general controversy over river management began (i.e., maximum of 12 round-trips per day for MTBs). No new facilities would be developed. Management and control of visitor use would be handled both on-site and off-site through fees, regulations, and limitations. Fees and permits would be required for commercial and private watercraft users and the number of commercial outfitters would be limited. On-site management and controls would fit into the natural landscape to the greatest degree possible. This alternative presents a more peaceful time with less visitor use than today.

B. Alternative B: No Action or Current Management/Watercraft and Visitor Use As It Is Now

The intent of this alternative would be to continue present levels of management with the character of the area remaining in a generally natural appearing condition. Alternative B is the no-action alternative required by the National Environmental Policy Act and is the baseline from which the other alternatives will be compared. Current management would allow for the development of up to two new day-use areas and one new camping area. Fees and permits would only be required for commercial watercraft users, but the number of commercial outfitters would not be limited. Except for commercial MTBs (i.e., maximum of 19 round-trips per day) and commercial motorized fishing boats (MFBs), overall recreation use levels would be unregulated and would increase. The sights, sounds, and interactions between individuals and groups would be moderate to high. This alternative reflects watercraft use levels projected for 1995. For analysis purposes, the number of watercraft trips is assumed to remain constant through 2005. On-site management and controls would be evident in some areas and lacking in others.

C. Alternative C: Angler and Floater Enhancement/More Watercraft and Visitor Use

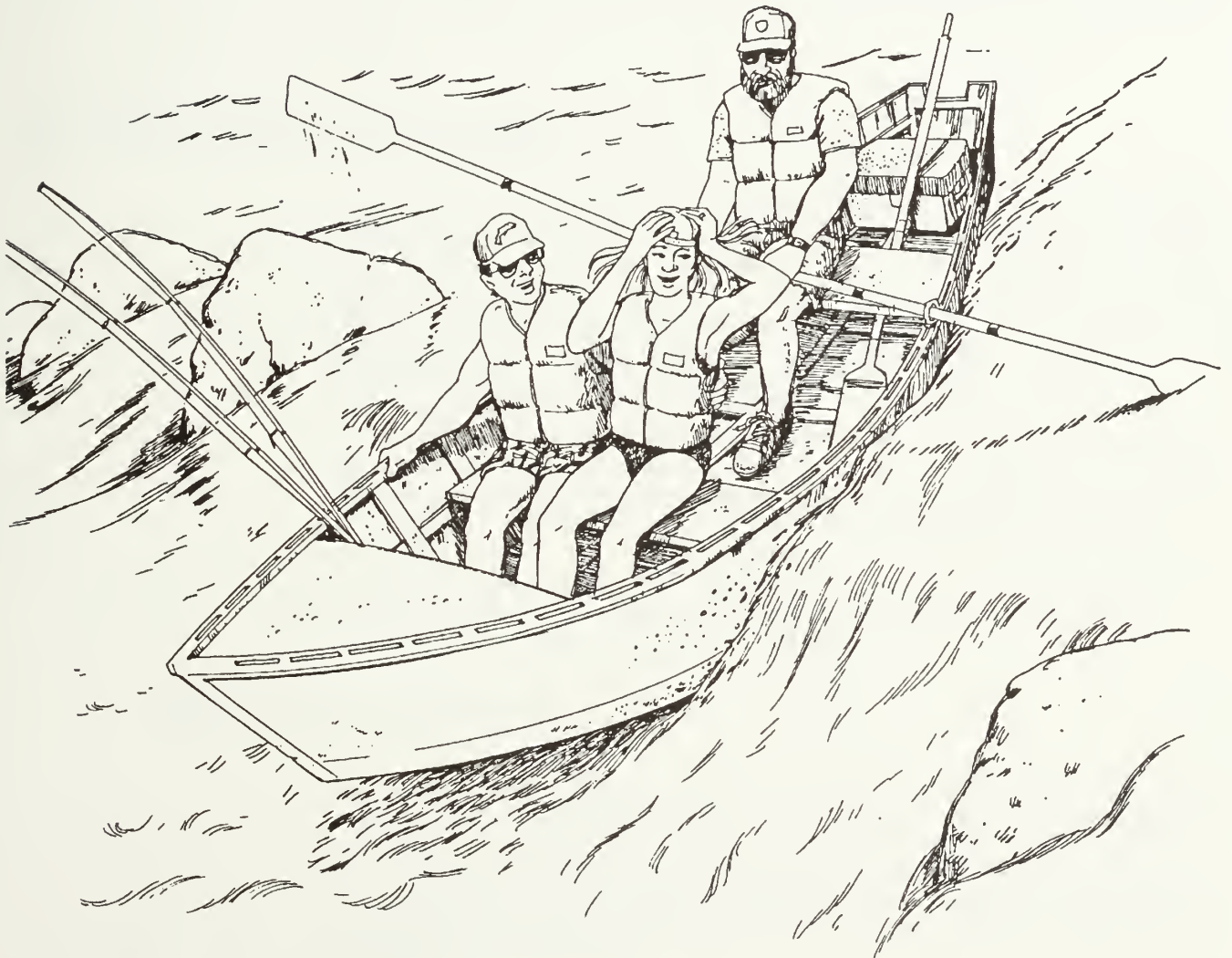
The objectives of alternative C would be to enhance the fishing and floating experience. The alternative would be designed to minimize potential impacts to the fisheries resource and increase fishing opportunities while enhancing the fishing experience (e.g., this alternative establishes a season of use for motorized traffic from May 1 through

September 15). This alternative would also maximize floating opportunities and protect the floating experience from adverse impacts of other users. The character of the area would remain in a generally natural appearing condition; however, facilities to serve the fishing and floating visitors would be developed. Permits would be required for all watercraft users. Fees would only be required for commercial watercraft users. The number of commercial outfitters would not be limited. Except for commercial MTBs (i.e., maximum of 12 round-trips per day) and commercial MFBs, overall recreation use levels would be unregulated and would continue to increase with the sights, sounds, and interactions between individuals and groups being moderate to high.

D. Alternative D: Maximum Watercraft and Visitor Use

The objectives of this alternative would be to maximize the level of recreational use while protecting the environment. The sights, sounds, and interactions with other individuals or groups would often be high. The character of the area would remain in a generally natural appearing condition. Facilities to enhance recreational opportunities such as camping, boating, fishing, and vehicle oriented activities would be developed. On-site management and controls would be obvious, but limited to those necessary for public health and safety as well as to accommodate increased numbers of visitors. Fees and permits would be required for all watercraft users. The number of commercial outfitters would not be limited. Commercial MTBs (i.e., maximum of 26 round-trips per day) and commercial MFBs would be regulated, but at a higher level of use than the other alternatives. Overall recreation use levels would continue to increase causing a high degree of interaction between individuals and groups.

X. MANAGEMENT METHODS USED TO ALLOCATE AND RATION RECREATIONAL USE



Allocation and rationing systems are tools available to help regulate use levels in order to meet management objectives. If the decision in the final plan is to have limited recreational use there is no need to consider allocation and rationing systems. In that case, anyone desiring to use the river may do so. If, however, the decision is to regulate recreational use levels, whether at a high level or low level, then certain actions would be taken to divide the available resource between the various users. The only allocation proposal being considered at this time is between different types of boating use.

It is helpful to think of the river system as a pie. The use limits define the size of the pie. If high use limits are established, it is a large pie and if low use limits are established, it is a small pie. Allocation divides the pie among various types of uses and determines the size of the piece of pie each use (e.g., wildlife/vegetation, boating, angling, camping, etc.) will receive. Rationing describes the means by which users obtain a bite of their slice.

In 1991 there were approximately 118,000 boater days of use on the river. The highest use periods were on weekends and holidays during the summer months. Congestion at launch and landing sites, crowding on the river, and competition for camping and fishing areas resulted. Alternative A limits and allocates all watercraft use. Alternatives B, C, and D limit and regulate only MFB and MTB to varying degrees.

This section is divided into two parts. The first part describes the allocation methods and offers examples by which use can be allocated. The second part describes methods and provides examples by which river use can be rationed to individual members of a particular group.

A. Allocation Methods

Allocation between uses is necessary when the levels of use exceed acceptable limits or established standards. At that point not everyone who wants to use the river is able to and decisions have to be made about who can use it and when. There are basically four goals that should be considered when developing allocation systems. The first goal is that of "equality." Equality assumes that individuals have the same right to certain benefits. It can be achieved either by dividing benefits equally or giving each individual an equal opportunity to obtain benefits. The second goal is "equity." Equity basically means fairness and any number of factors can be used in determining whether a particular allocation system is "fair." The third allocation goal is the recognition of "need" in distributing the resource. For example, those owning land along or near the river might be allocated more use. The fourth allocation goal identified is that of "social efficiency." Social efficiency is maximized when a resource is put to its most highly valued use.

Four allocation methods will be discussed. This list is not intended to be exhaustive or exclusive. Rather, it is a description of common allocation methods and is intended to provide a sounding board on the overall issue of allocation.

1. Historical Use Method

Under this method, historical use patterns are examined to see how use among user groups has, in fact, been split. This historic split is then carried forward into the future. Historic use may be the method which results in the least dislocation to each of the user groups, since it recognizes existing use patterns and each user group will share increases or decreases in use levels proportionately. One of its primary disadvantages is that it freezes use allocations at a point in time and may not take into account changing conditions or patterns of use by user groups.

2. Even Split Method

Under an even split method, an equal percentage split is used for various user groups. For example, use might be split 50-50 between guided parties and nonguided parties. This method has the advantage of understandable fairness in that things are evenly split. However, it has a substantial potential for dislocation of user groups that have historically had more than a 50 percent share of the use. A split which dislocates user groups may cause these groups to view the allocation as "unfair."

3. Total Common Pool

Under the total common pool, or so called freedom of choice method, all private users have an equal chance of obtaining a permit. That person then has a choice of whether or not to use a guide. A member of the public is able to choose the precise recreational experience desired. Under other allocation methods, a person obtaining a permit may not be able to choose the precise experience that he or she wants. Allocation methods giving thick slices of the pie to any particular user may be deemed arbitrary and unfair by users who do not feel their slice of the pie is large enough. Under this method guides do not have a fixed slice of the pie; rather, the size of their slice will be determined by the marketplace and the rationing system that is established. Theoretically guides under this allocation method could end up guiding from 0 percent to 100 percent of the users. This method may cause some guides with historical use to view the allocation as uncaring to their business efforts.

Under this method all permits would be allocated to private individuals. They would then be free to choose whether to use the services of a guide or not. Except for limits, this informal method is the one used in the Hellgate Recreation Area now (i.e., all visitors decide whether to use commercial guided services or not).

4. Combination Method

A combination of allocation methods might be used to fit the particular circumstances of a river system. For example, historical use data might be used to allocate river usage. Use might then be allocated among boaters using the freedom of choice method or an even split method.

B. Rationing Techniques

Once the allocation decisions are made, it is necessary to focus on how use will be rationed among members of various user groups. Again, a variety of rationing techniques are available. Not all methods are appropriate for rationing use among all user groups. For example, a bid and prospectus system might be appropriate for rationing use among guides but would be inappropriate for rationing use among private users. Seven rationing techniques are discussed below.

1. First-Come/First-Served (Queuing)

Under this method a premium is placed on time. In order to get a permit users have to go to the place where permits are being issued and may have to wait in line. Queuing (i.e., waiting in line) is like pricing in that it allows individuals to assess the value of a resource in relationship to their willingness to pay; but in this case, time rather than money is traded for the desired commodity.

2. Reservations

Reservations set a premium on planning. Write-in and phone-in applications may be used in this system. This method has the advantage of allowing people to plan well in advance, but it penalizes those that may want to make a spur of the moment trip.

3. Lottery

Using a lottery technique, all applicants have an equal chance to participate since the selection is random. It has the advantage of treating all people equally. However, to the extent that there are other goals, such as giving preference to first time users, experienced people, or in-state residents, etc., it may not meet those objectives.

4. Bid and Prospectus

This rationing technique would probably only be appropriate to allocate use among guides. Use could be allocated to guides by using various merit factors such as experience, quality of equipment, financial condition, etc., or on the amount the guide was willing to pay to obtain permits or a combination of both. It has the advantage of obtaining the best qualified guides and a higher economic return for the use of a public resource. It could well increase the economic burden to guiding businesses.

5. Pricing

Under this technique, prices for permits are set at a level high enough to achieve the desired level of use. This method has the advantage of raising more money to manage the system. However, it discriminates against those who are unable to afford the price or do not wish to pay the price.

6. Historic (Grandfathering)

This system would probably only be used to allocate use among guides. Guides that were able to establish historic use in the area would be allocated a permit. Guides who were grandfathered would clearly benefit and guides who were not would be displaced. There is also the question of how many watercraft days would be allocated to each permit under this system. Each guide with a permit could receive an equal number of watercraft days or a proportionate number of watercraft days could be assigned based on the historic size of their operation.

7. Combination

Under particular circumstances a combination of rationing methods might be appropriate. For example, if the allocation method was the total common pool method, one block of permits might be set aside for distribution by lottery (e.g., well in advance of the recreational season) to allow people to plan in advance and another block might be set aside for distribution on a first-come/first-serve basis on the day of use to accommodate spur of the moment recreationists.

XI. ISSUES AND MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES



The following tables detail some of the management actions which could be used to resolve the eight planning issues involved with recreational river use within the Hellgate Recreation Area. There is a table for each of the issues and sub-issues showing in a comparative way the differences between alternatives A, B, C, and D.

The projections for visitor use and watercraft trips are preliminary estimates included in the issue and alternative tables for comparative purposes. Two projections are identified for nonmotorized float boating and nonmotorized boat fishing because the visitor use pattern was very different recently (i.e., 1990-1993) than for the period from 1985 through 1993 (see figure 1). The average visitor use increase from 1985 through 1993 was 15 percent. The average visitor use increase for 1990 through 1993 was 3 percent. Projection 1 is based upon data for 1985 through 1993. Projection 2 is based upon data for 1990 through 1993.

Watercraft trip numbers in alternative A reflect historical use in 1985 (see Rogue River program files). The number of watercraft trips in alternative A would be managed to remain constant through the year 2005. Watercraft trip numbers in alternative B reflect current use as projected for the year 1995. For analysis purposes, the number of trips is assumed to remain constant at the 1995 level through 2005. Except for MFBs and MTBs, watercraft trip numbers in alternatives C and D are growth projections for the year 2005.

A. Motorized Boating

How should motorized boating, both commercial and private, be managed (e.g., how many, what type, permitted season, river reach, mix between commercial and private, etc.)?

The increase in the number of visitors using motorboats, especially motorized tour boats (MTBs), has prompted concerns over conflicts between motorized boating and nonmotorized float boating, boat fishing, and landowners. Motorized boats are defined as boats with a motor, regardless of the horsepower rating. Motorized boating contributes to competition for fishing areas. Many anglers and other users resent the noise, wake, and potential safety problem of motorized boating. The issue also includes a concern over streambank erosion/deposition as it affects the condition of riparian areas, loss of private land, and possible impacts to sensitive species (i.e., fish). The visitor use conflicts are most evident during the hot summer weekends and the fall fishing season.

Management options common for all motorized boating may be found in table 1A. Motorized boating was then divided into four categories to show management options which are different from category to category. These categories are private motorized boating (see table 1B), motorized fishing boating (see table 1C), motorized tour boating (see table 1D), and special motorized boating events, (see table 1E).

Table 1A - Issue A - All Motorized Boating (commercial and private)

| All Motorized Boating | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| Number of visitors all motorized boats | 33,770 | 76,020 | 26,300 | 130,900 |
| Number of trips all motorized boats | 1,340 | 2,080 | 1,350 | 4,450 |
| Season of use | • all year for all motorized boating, except MTBs 5/1 - 9/30 | • all year for private and MFBs • 5/1 - 9/30 for MTBs | 5/1 - 9/15 ¹ | • all year for all motorized boating, except MTBs 4/1 - 10/31 |
| River reach Applegate and Dunn | all traffic is allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches | all traffic is allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches | • all traffic is allowed in the Applegate reach • commercial traffic is prohibited in Dunn reach ² • private traffic is allowed on a rotation basis (4 days on, 10 days off) in Dunn reach ² | all traffic is allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches |
| Sound management areas for all watercraft, motorized and nonmotorized (e.g., noisy visitors, PA systems, engine and hull sound generators, etc.) | • no areas identified • OSMB standards ³ | • no areas identified • OSMB standards | • sound management areas identified ³ • OSMB standards | • no areas identified • OSMB standards |
| Erosion sensitive areas for all motorized watercraft (i.e., bed and bank) | no areas identified | no areas identified | • erosion areas identified • mitigating measures where appropriate ⁴ | • erosion areas identified • mitigating measures where appropriate |
| Thrill power maneuver areas | • discretion of boat operator • MTB operators use this maneuver | • discretion of boat operator • MTB operators use this maneuver | thrill power maneuvers prohibited ⁵ | some thrill power maneuver areas identified as appropriate ⁵ |
| Requirement to wear personal flotation devices (PFDs) for all watercraft (motorized and nonmotorized) | no requirement to wear PFDs ⁶ | no requirement to wear PFDs | all persons 12 years and younger required to wear PFDs ⁶ | all persons 12 years and younger required to wear PFDs |
| Boat speed | no wake at boat ramps ⁷ | no wake at boat ramps | • no wake at boat ramps • no wake in certain areas of angler concentrations and in designated swim areas ⁷ | • no wake at boat ramps • no wake in certain areas of angler concentrations and in designated swim areas |
| Pass through and no anchor zones for all watercraft | no areas identified | • one pass through zone • three no anchor zones ⁸ | some additional no anchor zones ⁸ | some additional no anchor zones |
| Fall chinook sensitive areas for all watercraft, motorized and nonmotorized | no areas identified | no areas identified | protect some areas ⁹ | protect some areas |
| Safety sites of concern for all watercraft, motorized and nonmotorized | no areas identified | no areas identified | • sites of concern identified • mitigating measures where appropriate (e.g., vegetation removal, safety observers, two-way radios, etc.) ¹⁰ | • sites of concern identified • mitigating measures where appropriate (e.g., vegetation removal, safety observers, two-way radios, etc.) |

Table 1A - Issue A - All Motorized Boating (commercial and private) (continued)

| All Motorized Boating | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| Two-way radio communication required for all motorized watercraft | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> no radio requirements most motorized watercraft have CB radios | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> most motorized watercraft have CB radios MTBs required to have two-way radios no requirements for other motorized watercraft | two-way radios required ¹¹ | two-way radios required |

¹Spawning in the Hellgate Recreation Area by fall chinook is from mid-September to late December (page 6, Bessey 1993). Sac-fry remain in the gravel until late April. The season of use for motorized boat traffic was identified because there is a concern that motorized boat traffic adversely impacts adult fall chinook spawning behavior and kills their eggs and sac-fry (page 10, Walker 1994). The season of use is also proposed to enhance the nonmotorized boat fishing experience (Shindler and Shelby 1992; Walker and Littlefield 1993).

²Private motorized traffic would be managed cooperatively by the BLM and the OSMB. It is allowed in the Applegate reach without restriction and in the Dunn reach on a rotation basis (i.e., private motorized boating is allowed for four days and prohibited for ten days, allowed for four days and prohibited for ten days, etc. from 5/1 through 9/15). Commercial motorized traffic is allowed in the Applegate reach and prohibited in the Dunn reach during the primary float boating use season (i.e., May through October).

³The OSMB has sound standards (decibel levels) for recreational watercraft. In alternative C the BLM would manage sound for all watercraft in certain sensitive areas in cooperation with Josephine County and the OSMB. Management would focus on education and respect for other users and in some cases with special permit stipulations for commercial and private use. Managing sound through the use of decibel levels beyond State of Oregon standards is not being considered.

⁴The identification of erosion sensitive areas is a contracted study effort and part of the Rogue River studies program. Recommended mitigation measures as appropriate are also part of the study effort and will be considered by BLM as components of alternatives C and D. Two categories of mitigating measures include managing boat operations and bank protection.

⁵Alternative C eliminates thrill power maneuvers in the Hellgate Recreation Area as agreed to by the managing agencies (e.g., BLM, OSMB, USCG, etc.). Alternative D identifies areas and conditions where thrill power maneuvers are permitted.

⁶The OSMB has rules which require all persons in a watercraft to have a PFD which is readily accessible for use. The USCG has rules for MTBs. An idea for discussion in alternatives C and D is that all persons 12 years and younger in watercraft of all types must wear their PFDs when in the Hellgate Recreation Area.

⁷The OSMB has rules for no wake at boat ramps which are applicable for all alternatives. In alternatives C and D BLM is recommending a no wake rule in certain areas of angler concentrations (e.g., Applegate confluence, Finley Bend, etc.) and in designated swim areas (i.e., buoyed areas).

⁸The OSMB has rules for one pass through zone and three no anchor zones (see glossary) in the Hellgate Recreation Area (i.e., alternative B). The BLM recommended/concurred in these designations. The BLM will recommend additional no anchor zones in certain areas for alternatives C and D (see table 5). The purpose is to enhance the nonmotorized angling watercraft recreational experience during the primary fishing seasons.

⁹Fall chinook sensitive areas are spawning areas to be avoided by all watercraft, motorized and nonmotorized. Fall chinook sensitive areas would be cooperatively identified by the managing agencies [e.g., BLM, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), OSMB, and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)].

¹⁰Safety sites of concern will be identified in a contracted study effort which is part of the Rogue River studies program. Mitigation measures will be recommended to the sponsoring agencies (i.e., Jackson County Sheriff's Office, BLM, Josephine County Sheriff's Office, Oregon State Police, OSMB, and USCG) as part of the study contract. These mitigating measures for all watercraft traversing specific sites of concern will be considered by the sponsoring agencies and other managing agencies (e.g., Oregon Division of State Lands (DSL), Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD), etc.) in designing alternatives C and D.

¹¹Two-way radio communication equipment is required in all motorized watercraft (e.g., CB radios at a minimum) as agreed to by the managing agencies (e.g., BLM, OSMB, USCG, etc.) in alternatives C and D.

Table 1B - Issue A - Private Motorized Boating

| Private Motorized Boating | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|---------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Number of visitors | 440 | 600 | 800 | 800 |
| Number of trips | 130 | 170 | 230 | 230 |
| Allocation/limits | limits: equals 1985 watercraft numbers | no limits | no limits | no limits |
| Season of use | all year | all year | 5/1 - 9/15 ¹ | all year |
| River reach | allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches | allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> allowed in Applegate reach rotation basis in Dunn reach (4 days on, 10 days off) ² | allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches |

¹See footnote 1 of table 1A for all motorized boating.

²See footnote 2 of table 1A for all motorized boating.

Table 1C - Issue A - Motorized Fishing Boats (MFB)

| Motorized Fishing Boats (MFB) | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|--------------------------------|--|---|---|---|
| Number of visitors | 270 | 360 | 500 | 5,000 |
| Number of trips | 80 | 100 | 140 | 1,400 |
| Allocation/limits | limits: equals 1985 watercraft numbers | limits: equals current watercraft numbers | limits: alternative B numbers | limits: watercraft numbers associated with 30 permits |
| Season of use | all year | all year | 5/1 - 9/15 ¹ | all year |
| River reach | allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches | allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • allowed in Applegate reach • MFBs prohibited in Dunn reach 5/1 - 9/15 ² | allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches |
| Number of permits ³ | no permits, one operator | three permits | three permits | 30 permits |

¹See footnote 1 of table 1A for all motorized boating.

²See footnote 2 of table 1A for all motorized boating.

³No permits were issued in 1985, but one operator was providing service. Three MFB permits had been issued by 1991 and a moratorium had been established by BLM pending the results of the river planning process. This moratorium is in effect for alternative B. Three MFB permits were assumed for alternative C. Thirty (30) MFB permits were assumed to be issued for alternative D.

Table 1D - Issue A - Motorized Tour Boating (MTB)

| Motorized Tour Boating (MTB) | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| Number of visitors by MTB | 33,000 | 75,000 | 25,000 | 125,000 |
| Number of trips | 1,070 | 1,750 | 980 | 2,720 |
| Allocation/limits | limits: maximum round trips per day reduced from alternative B by 7 | limits: maximum round trips per day equals 19 | limits: maximum round trips per day reduced from alternative B by 7 | limits: maximum round trips per day increased above alternative B by 7 |
| Season of use | 5/1 - 9/30 | 5/1 - 9/30 ¹ | 5/1 - 9/15 ² | 4/1 - 10/31 |
| River reaches | allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches | allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches ³ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • allowed in Applegate reach • MTBs prohibited in Dunn reach ⁴ | allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches |
| Trips per day maximum number of round trips | maximum historical use was 12 round trips daily | maximum number of daily round trips is 19 ⁵ | maximum daily round trips are 12 | maximum daily round trips are 26 |
| Groups/runs | operator discretion | MTB traffic to operate in groups/runs ⁶ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • groups/runs required • MTB time separations for runs identified ⁶ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • groups/runs required • MTB time separations for runs identified |
| Boat size maximum size | historical sizes were 1 MTB > 36', all others < 36' ⁷ | 2 MTBs > 36', all others < 36' ⁸ | all MTBs < 36' | 2 MTBs = 42', all others < 39' ⁹ |

Table 1D - Issue A - Motorized Tour Boating (MTB) (continued)

| Motorized Tour Boating (MTB) | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|---|--|---|---|---|
| Number of permits | • 3 permits • 4 MTB operators ¹⁰ | 2 permits ¹¹ | 2 permits | 3 - 4 permits ¹² |
| Notice display on lead MTB | no display | notice displayed on lead MTB in group/run ¹³ | notice display required for all MTBs in a group/run | notice display required for all MTBs in a group/run |
| Annual daily schedule | operator's schedule | annual daily schedule required, schedule changes approved as authorized ¹⁴ | annual daily schedule required, schedule changes not authorized ¹⁴ | annual daily schedule required, schedule changes approved as authorized |
| Daily use time allowed in Hellgate Recreation Area | operator's schedule | daily use from 9:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. ¹⁵ | daily use from 10:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. | daily use is daylight hours |
| Off plane procedures | operator discretion | off plane requirement in Hellgate Canyon ¹⁶ | off plane requirement in Hellgate Canyon and in some bank fishing concentration areas (e.g., Applegate confluence, Finley Bend, Robertson Bridge, etc.) ¹⁶ | off plane requirement in Hellgate Canyon and in some bank fishing concentration areas (e.g., Applegate confluence, Finley Bend, Robertson Bridge, etc.) |
| Radio communication | most motorized watercraft have CB radios | two-way radio communication required between MTBs ¹⁷ | • two-way radio communication required between MTBs • BLM and MTB operators facilitate communication by mutual use of MTB licensed radio channel | • two-way radio communication required between MTBs • BLM and MTB operators facilitate communication by mutual use of MTB licensed radio channel |
| First mate additional seaman | • first mate not required • one MTB operator standard | • first mate not required • one MTB operator standard | first mate or additional seaman required ¹⁸ | first mate or additional seaman required |

¹⁰In 1991 a permit stipulation established an MTB season of use from 5/1 - 9/30 (reference special recreation permit files for MTBs). This permit stipulation is interim pending the results of the river planning process. It applies to alternative B.

¹¹See footnote 1 of table 1A for all motorized boating.

¹²In 1991 a permit stipulation established a river reach usage (reference special recreation permit files for MTBs). Both the Applegate and Dunn reaches could be used, but at different levels of intensity. A maximum of 19 trips per day were allowed in the Applegate reach. A maximum number of 6 trips per day were allowed in the Dunn reach during July and August weekends and holidays. This permit stipulation is interim pending the results of the river planning process and would become the allocation under alternative B.

¹³Alternative C permits MTB usage of the Applegate reach and prohibits usage in the Dunn reach. The primary reason for prohibition in the Dunn reach is to enhance the float boating experience during the warm summer months.

¹⁴In 1991 a permit stipulation established a maximum number of MTB trips per day (reference special recreation permit files for MTBs). A maximum of 19 trips per day are allowed in the Hellgate Recreation Area (see footnote for trips per reach). This permit stipulation is interim pending the results of the river planning process and would become the allocation under alternative B.

¹⁵In 1991 a permit stipulation established a group/run season from 5/1 - 9/30 (reference special recreation permit files for MTBs). This permit stipulation is interim pending the results of the river planning process. It applies to alternative B. The group/run definition is a group of boats each of which is making one trip. Boats are grouped into runs to limit the number of encounters with other watercraft. MTBs in runs should be 15 seconds to 2 minutes apart to accomplish this objective.

¹⁶MTB boat sizes in alternative A reflect the historical sizes existing in 1985. There was one existing 42 foot MTB in service in 1985 (i.e., the Ginni Mac). All other MTBs were less than 36 feet in length.

¹⁷In 1991 an interim permit stipulation established a maximum size for MTBs (reference special recreation permit files for MTBs). The stipulation for MTB size is that the maximum size of passenger-carrying vessels shall be reduced to not longer than 36 feet with a maximum 12 foot beam by the beginning of the 1995 season for Rogue Jetboat Excursions, Inc. and by the beginning of the 1996 season for HellgateExcursions, Inc. This permit stipulation is interim pending the results of the river planning process and applies to alternative B. The two existing 42 foot MTBs (i.e., Ginni Mac and Miss Grants Pass) would remain in service in alternative B.

¹⁸In alternative D the two existing 42 foot MTBs (i.e., Ginni Mac and Miss Grants Pass) would remain in service. In alternative D the maximum size of any newly constructed MTB would be no longer than 39 feet in length with a maximum 14 foot beam.

¹⁹There were no permits required for any watercraft use in the Hellgate Recreation Area prior to 1985. The BLM issued three MTB permits in 1985 at the same time that all commercial use by watercraft was placed under permit (i.e., MRP-208 for Gentry McKinney and Richard Camey, MRP-216 for Gary Woolsey, and MRP-222 for Richard Smith). One additional MTB operator, B. A. Hanten, was negotiating with BLM for a permit. An MTB permit was not issued to Hanten and he elected to cease his MTB operation after 1985. Richard Smith also elected to cease his MTB operation after 1985. The four historical MTB operations are part of alternative A.

²⁰In 1991 an interim permit stipulation established a moratorium on the number of MTB permits (reference special recreation permit files for MTBs). The two existing MTB permits are: MRP-208, Rogue Jetboat Excursions, Inc., and MRP-216, Hellgate Excursions, Inc. Both permits are issued to Robert Hamlyn. These two MTB operations are a part of alternative B.

²¹Alternative D assumes a maximum of 26 round trips per day during the MTB season of use. The number of MTB permittees is the same as alternative B plus 1 to 2 more permits for a possible 4. The additional 7 trips above 19 trips per day could be either additional trips to the two existing MTB permits or allocated to new permittees.

²²In 1991 a permit stipulation established the requirement for a notice display on the lead MTB in a group/run (reference special recreation permit files for MTBs). This permit stipulation is interim pending the results of the river planning process. It applies to alternative B. The notice display objective is to inform other users to the number of MTBs in the run.

²³In 1991 a permit stipulation established the requirement for an annual daily MTB schedule (reference special recreation permit files for MTBs). This permit stipulation allowed schedule changes as necessary. It is interim pending the results of the river planning process. It applies to alternative B. The requirement for the annual daily schedule is to inform other users to the approximate time MTBs will be passing a certain point. Alternative C would not allow schedule changes.

²⁴In 1991 a permit stipulation established the times for entering and departing the Hellgate Recreation Area (reference special recreation permit files for MTBs). This permit stipulation is interim pending the results of the river planning process. It applies to alternative B. The entering time changes to 9:30 a.m. in September for alternative B. Alternative C and D have different operating times.

²⁵In 1991 a permit stipulation established the requirement for off plane procedures in Hellgate Canyon (reference special recreation permit files for MTBs). This permit stipulation is interim pending the results of the river planning process. It applies to alternative B. Additional offplane areas could be identified for bank angler concentration areas (e.g., Applegate confluence, Finley Bend, Robertson Bridge, etc.).

²⁶In 1991 a permit stipulation established the requirement for all MTBs to have operable two-way radios for boat to boat and boat to shore communication (reference special recreation permit files for MTBs). This permit stipulation is interim pending the results of the river planning process. It applies to alternatives B, C, and D.

²⁷A first mate (additional person in addition to the boat operator) is not required in alternatives A and B. Alternative C and D require a first mate in the Hellgate Recreation Area as agreed to by the managing agencies (i.e., BLM and USCG).

Table 1E - Issue A - Special Motorized Boating Events

| Special Motorized Boating Events | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|---|--|---|---|---|
| Number of visitors ¹ special boating events | 60 | 60 | 0 | 100 |
| Number of trips special boating events | 60 | 60 | 0 | 100 |
| Allocation/limits | limits: historical use in 1985 | limits: current use | no allocation/use | some limits |
| Season of use Memorial Day race Labor Day race | permits for historical Memorial Day Boatnik race and Labor Day boat race | permits for Memorial Day Boatnik races and Labor Day boat races | none | as necessary to accommodate new events |
| River reach Memorial Day race Labor Day race | allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches | allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches | not allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches | allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches |
| Number of permits | 2 permits | 2 permits | none | 5 permits |
| New special motorized boating events (i.e., competitive events) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no requirement • traditional motorized boating events allowed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • traditional motorized boating events allowed • no new technology watercraft events | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • special motorized boating events not allowed • elimination of racing-motorboat testing areas | new technology watercraft events can be considered (e.g., unlimited jet boat events, hovercraft uses, etc.) |

Common management options for all motorized boating: The common management options applicable to the other types of motorized boating traffic are not applicable to special motorized boating events.

¹The number of visitors reflects visitors by watercraft.

B. Nonmotorized Float Boating

How should nonmotorized float boating be managed (e.g., how much, what kind, permitted season, mix between commercial and private, etc.)?

The growth of nonmotorized float boating has prompted concerns over conflicts between nonmotorized float boaters and motorized boaters, anglers, and landowners. The social problems are most evident during the hot summer weekends. Does visitor use by nonmotorized float boating affect sensitive species?

Nonmotorized float boating means boats without a motor. Anglers in drift boats are not addressed in this issue. They are addressed in issue E, nonmotorized boat fishing.

Table 2 - Issue B - Nonmotorized Float Boating

| Nonmotorized Float Boating | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| Number of visitors nonmotorized float boaters | 10,000 | projection 1 - 48,000 projection 2 - 37,000 | projection 1 - 263,000 projection 2 - 53,000 | projection 1 - 263,000 projection 2 - 53,000 |
| Number of trips nonmotorized float boaters | 7,000 | projection 1 - 33,000 projection 2 - 25,000 | projection 1 - 180,000 projection 2 - 36,000 | projection 1 - 180,000 projection 2 - 36,000 |
| Allocation/limits commercial nonmotorized float boaters | limits ¹ | no limits | no limits | no limits |
| Allocation/limits private nonmotorized float boaters | limits ¹ | no limits | no limits | no limits |
| Permits private nonmotorized float boaters | permits required ² | no permits | permits required ² | permits required |
| Fees private nonmotorized float boaters | fees required ² | no fees | no fees | fees required ² |
| Voluntary guidelines nonmotorized float boaters | no guidelines | no guidelines | guidelines applicable ³ | no guidelines |

Common management options for all boating: sound management areas, requirement to wear PFDs, fall chinook sensitive areas, pass through and no anchor zones, safety sites of concern (see table 1A).

¹There would be an allocation/limit for commercial and private nonmotorized float boat use in alternative A. The allocation/limit would be equal to the estimated watercraft use in 1985.

²Permits would be required for private nonmotorized float watercraft use in alternatives A, C, and D. Permits to private parties in alternatives C and D are issued on an unlimited basis. The value of these permits is to help manage use, provide information, and estimate future use levels. Fees would be required in alternatives A and D.

³Voluntary guidelines would be adopted by BLM to encourage floaters to stay off the river for the first three hours of daylight during the intense fishing periods (e.g., January through March and September through November).

C. Commercial Services and Activities

How should commercial services or activities within the Hellgate Recreation Area of the Rogue River be managed (e.g., how much, what kind, etc.)?

There are no limits on the number of commercial services permitted (e.g., guided or outfitted services) on the Hellgate section of the Rogue River. Is there a need to establish a level of commercial use that is appropriate for serving the public need? Currently BLM permits are not required for commercial services and activities such as raft rental and shuttle driving. Which commercial services or activities should be subject to permit and at what level?

The number of commercial permittees are not limited in the Hellgate Recreation Area under current management (i.e., alternative B). Visitors to the river by watercraft have the choice to either have a private trip or employ the services of a commercial outfitter.

Table 3 - Issue C - Commercial Services and Activities

| Commercial Services and Activities | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| Allocation/limit to number of permits for commercial services and activities | limits ¹ | no limits | no limits | no limits |
| Fees and permits for commercial outfitter services | required | required | required | required |
| Fees and permits for commercial rental services | required ² | no permits or fees | no permits or fees | required |
| Fees and permits for commercial shuttle services | required ² | no permits or fees | no permits or fees | required |

¹Commercial permittees would be limited/allocated in alternative A. This limitation and allocation might be based on historical use (e.g., to those outfitters permitted in 1993 and showing actual use during either the 1991, 1992, or 1993 seasons), lottery, or total common pool, etc. (see section X). Permit transfers by commercial outfitters would be allowed in the future by current outfitter permit regulations.

²Commercial raft rental and shuttle driving services are not required to have a BLM permit under current management (i.e., alternative B). Permits and fees would not be required under alternatives B or C. Commercial raft rental and shuttle driving services would require a permit and pay fees under alternatives A and D.

D. User Fees and Permits

Should user fees be levied for all visitor use by watercraft and vehicle parking at BLM-administered day use areas within the Hellgate Recreation Area of the Rogue River? How can fees that are collected be reinvested in management on the ground?

Visitors using guides pay for their share of the cost of managing the river resources through the commercial fees that permitted outfitters pay. Should private users pay their share of the cost of the management services and facilities provided?

An adequate and stable funding mechanism is essential for resource protection, visitor services, facility development, operation, maintenance and trash collection, as well as access acquisition. There is increasing pressure for BLM to obtain a "fair" return for recreation investments and services provided by public lands. This may in part translate to establishing and/or increasing recreation and user fees to offset the cost of providing recreation services.

Table 4 - Issue D - User Fees and Permits

| User Fees and Permits | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| Permits and fees commercial | required | required | required | required |
| Permits private use | • required ¹ • lottery system | no permits | • required • unlimited system | • required • unlimited system |
| User fees private use | required ² | no fees | no fees | required |
| Day use parking pass | no pass | no pass | no pass | pass required ³ |

¹For the purpose of alternative design it is assumed that in alternative A the permits would be allocated through a lottery system similar to the wild section. Permits to private parties in alternatives C and D are issued on an unlimited basis. The value of these unlimited permits is to help manage use, provide information, and estimate future use levels. Private user permits in alternative C might be self-issuing.

²The fee would be from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per person for each trip permit under alternative A. The fee would be \$5.00 per person for each trip or \$10.00 for an annual permit under alternative D.

³An annual day use parking pass would be required for all vehicles parked on BLM-administered day use areas within the corridor of the Hellgate Recreation Area. The fee would be \$10.00 for each vehicular parking pass.

E. Nonmotorized Boat Fishing

How should a quality nonmotorized boat fishing experience be maintained or enhanced (e.g., how much, what kind, permitted season, mix between commercial and private watercraft use, etc.)?

The nonmotorized boat fishing experience issue centers around: competition for fishing areas, angler versus boating conflicts (i.e., boating across fishing water), biological health of the fisheries resource, and noise and safety conflicts between nonmotorized fishing watercraft users and motorboat users. The jet boat or motorized tour boat (MTB) service was clearly identified by anglers as a major point of controversy. Bank fishing is not considered part of the issue and is not considered in the following management alternatives.

A design focus for alternative C was to mitigate real and possible impacts to the fishery resource and the nonmotorized fishing experience (i.e., boat and bank) through behavior modification of other users.

Oregon State fishing regulations, such as bag limits, season-of-use, catch and release, barbless hook, etc., also have a major impact on the fishing experience. Fishing regulations will not be addressed in this planning effort.

Table 5 - Issue E - Nonmotorized Boat Fishing

| Nonmotorized Boat Fishing | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| Number of visitors | 6,000 | projection 1 - 16,000 projection 2 - 14,000 | projection 1 - 83,000 projection 2 - 26,000 | projection 1 - 83,000 projection 2 - 26,000 |
| Number of watercraft | 3,000 | projection 1 - 8,000 projection 2 - 6,000 | projection 1 - 39,000 projection 2 - 12,000 | projection 1 - 39,000 projection 2 - 12,000 |
| Allocation/limits | limits ¹ | no limits | no limits | no limits |
| Permits | permits required | no permits | permits required ² | permits required |
| Fees | fee required | no fees | no fees | fees required |
| Season of use | all year | all year | all year | all year |
| River reach | allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches | allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches | allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches | allowed in Applegate and Dunn reaches |
| No anchor zones | no areas identified | three no-anchor zones ³ | • three no-anchor zones • some additional no-anchor zones ⁴ | • three no-anchor zones • some additional no anchor zones |
| Sound management areas | • no areas identified • OSMB standards ⁵ | • no areas identified • OSMB standards | • some sound management areas ⁵ • OSMB standards | • no areas identified • OSMB standards |
| Fall chinook sensitive areas nonmotorized boat angling | no areas identified | no areas identified | protect some areas ⁶ | protect some areas |
| Requirement to wear personal flotation devices (PFDs) | no requirement to wear PFDs | no requirement to wear PFDs | all persons 12 years and younger required to wear PFDs ⁷ | all persons 12 years and younger required to wear PFDs |
| Safety sites of concern | no areas identified | no areas identified | • sites of concern identified • mitigating measures where appropriate (e.g., vegetation removal, safety observers, two-way radios, etc.) ⁸ | • sites of concern identified • mitigating measures where appropriate (e.g., vegetation removal, safety observers, two-way radios, etc.) |

Additional management options for motorized boating were identified to enhance the nonmotorized angling experience: erosion sensitive areas, thrill power maneuver areas, boat speed, boat size, number of trips, season of use, daily use, and river reach, two-way radio communication, etc. (see table 1A)

¹There would be an allocation/limit for commercial and private nonmotorized angling watercraft use in alternative A. The limit would be equal to the estimated watercraft use in 1985.

²The value of unlimited permits is to help manage use, provide information, and estimate future use levels.

³Three no anchor zones from August 1 through September 30 have been established within the Hellgate Recreation Area by the Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) because of boating safety concerns (see glossary).

⁴The three OSMB no anchor zones can also enhance the angling experience. Alternative C has a major increase in number of watercraft used by anglers. The assumption is that no anchor zones would enhance the fishing experience from October 1 through July 31 by distributing anglers in space with more anglers sharing the experience. The pass-through zone would also be identified as a no anchor zone for enhancing angling. Other no anchor zones may be identified.

⁵See footnote 3 for all motorized boating (table 1A).

⁶See footnote 9 for all motorized boating (table 1A).

⁷See footnote 6 for all motorized boating (table 1A).

⁸See footnote 10 for all motorized boating (table 1A).

F. Recreational Opportunities

What types of recreational opportunities should be provided?

1. How and Where Should Camping be Managed?

Under the present plan, the BLM-administered land from the Applegate River to Hellgate Park is a day-use only area. Overnight camping is allowed from Hellgate Park to Almeda Park on river right and from Almeda Park to Grave Creek on both sides of the river, except for private land or land posted as day-use only. Camping is limited to 14 days.

Fire restrictions are regulated by the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). There are no campfire restrictions until ODF declares a “closed fire season.” During the “closed fire season” campfires are permitted in areas maintained and designated as overnight camping areas by Josephine County Parks; smoking is confined to those camping areas, enclosed vehicles, and sandy beaches.

There is a degree of competition for camping sites in the Hellgate Recreation Area which is expected to increase. This competition is especially intense during the peak use periods when demand exceeds supply. There is the potential for camping activities to impact the physical and biological environments. How should BLM contribute to the developed and undeveloped camping opportunities while protecting river resources? What level and type of development are appropriate?

Under current management possible trespass problems were avoided by designating areas of intermingled private and public ownership as day use only. There are at least three beaches between Hellgate Canyon and Hellgate Park that have been used for overnight camping and are not a cause for concern when considering trespass problems. One alternative to consider would be to allow camping on both sides of the river between Hellgate Canyon and Hellgate Park (see map 2 and 3 for potential camping areas).

2. How and Where Should a Trail System be Managed?

The number and primitive quality of trails within the Hellgate Recreation Area restricts access for recreationists. A trail system to accommodate a broad range of visitors (e.g., hikers, equestrians, anglers, bicyclists, off highway vehicles (OHVs), etc.) could be developed to improve access opportunities to the Hellgate Recreation Area and adjacent public lands.

Table 6A - Issue F1 - Camping

| Camping | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| Existing camping areas ¹ close or improve improve sites to meet minimum standards | Close all undeveloped sites to discourage improper human waste disposal | Improve Argo | Improve Argo Paint Creek (float-in) Upper Ennis (float-in) | Improve Argo North Zigzag Creek ² Paint Creek (float-in) Robert Dean ³ Rocky Bar Stratton Creek Upper Ennis (float-in) |
| Open new camping areas allow camping at areas that are presently closed to camping | none | none | Chair Griffin Lane Complex Hussey Lane Rand Rocky Bar (1 site) ⁴ | between Hellgate Canyon & Hellgate Park Chair Riffle Sloan Hayfield Ferry Road River Front Flanagan Slough (float-in) ⁵ Griffin Lane Complex Hussey Lane Rand Robertson Bridge Peach Orchard Rocky Bar (1 site) ⁴ |
| Develop new camping areas ¹ provide recreation facilities at sites that are presently undeveloped | none | Rand | Almeda Mine Chair Griffin Lane Complex Hussey Lane Rand Rocky Bar Upper Grave Creek | Almeda Mine Chair Riffle Sloan Hayfield Flanagan Slough (float-in) ⁵ Griffin Lane Complex Hellgate Beach Hellgate Bridge Hussey Lane Hog Creek - Grave Creek (trail sites) Jumpoff Joe Creek North Zigzag Creek ² Rand Robertson Bridge Peach Orchard Upper Grave Creek |
| Acquire land to open up new camping areas | none | none | Hussey Lane Rocky Riffle Beach (presently state land) | Almeda Mine Hussey Lane Hull place Rocky Riffle Beach (presently state land) |
| Human waste pack-out method at sites without toilets | required | required commercial only | required | required |
| Campfires adhere to current state regulations for all alternatives | State regulations | State regulations | • State regulations • fire pans required | • State regulations • fire pans required |
| Day limit to camping ⁶ | 7 days per site unless otherwise posted | 14 days per site unless otherwise posted | 4 days per site unless otherwise posted | 4 days per site unless otherwise posted |
| Maximum group size limit | 10 people per campsite | no limit | 20 people per campsite | 30 people per campsite |

¹Development or improvements at any of these sites could include: toilets, showers, electrical hook-ups, camping pads, picnic tables, fire pits, trash receptacles, shelters, parking, corrals, and road improvement or development. In other words some of these sites could be turned into a campground such as Indian Mary, but most of the sites are unlikely candidates for this as they are limited by practical elements such as size, location in the flood plain, rugged topography, etc.

²North Zigzag Creek could provide camping with river access only or also road access with road development.

³The Robert Dean site could provide camping with river access or trail access (e.g., on foot, horseback, or mountain bike - see issue F2).

⁴Rocky Bar presently has a large area open to primitive camping, but one site at the upriver end of the bar under the trees is presently posted as day use only.

⁵Flanagan Slough float-in camping only and only at lower end (i.e., gravel bar area). This could be a campground for groups that have to pay, be accountable for their actions, and make reservations. This could be a good area for day use only with a large parking area at the bottom of the hill and hiking trails (i.e., a watchable wildlife site - see issue F4).

⁶The prohibited acts define camping limits of 14 consecutive days except for in the "wild" section where 7 days is the limit for a stay. Seven days gives a group an opportunity to occupy a site through a weekend, but then requires a change by the following weekend to allow more groups to use a site than what might occur with a 14 day limit. Four days was identified as a maximum to allow a wider variety of people to use a given site while still allowing a group to occupy a site for an entire holiday weekend.

Map 2

Potential Camping and Day Use Sites

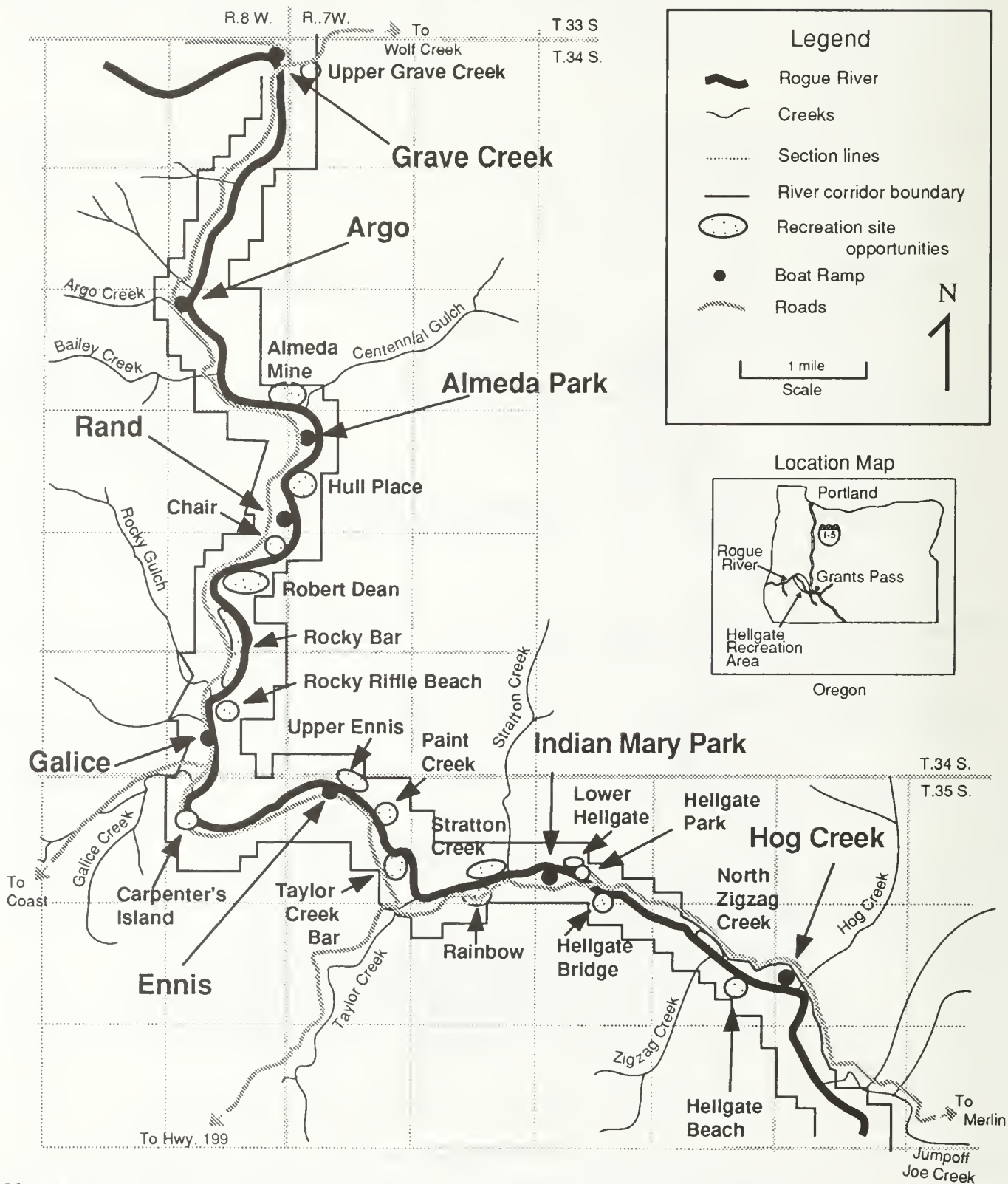
Rogue River: Applegate River to Jumpoff Joe Creek



Map 3

Potential Camping and Day Use Sites

Rogue River: Jumpoff Joe Creek to Grave Creek



Many of the existing trails were primarily developed over the years by visitors seeking river access. Some of the trails would require reconstruction along old roads, abandoned trails, and mining ditches. Others would need new construction in areas where no trails currently exist. The trail system could consist of multiple-use (i.e., hiking, equestrian, mountain bike, OHVs, etc.) or restricted use (i.e., hiking only) trails. Some trails could be designated day use only, while others would allow both day and overnight use. The trails referenced are located either partially or totally on BLM-administered lands.

Table 6B - Issue F2 - Trail System

| Trails | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/ more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| Develop new trails new construction no trail presently existing | none | none | Rainbow ¹⁰ | Powerline ⁵ Robert Dean ⁷ - Ash Gulch to Centennial, Argo to Grave Creek Ferry Rd. Nature Trail ⁸ Applegate Landing Nature Trail ⁹ Rainbow ¹⁰ Merlin-Grave Cr. Bicycle Route ¹¹ Flanagan Slough Interpretive Trail ¹² Galice Creek/Taylor Creek Trails ¹³ |
| Improve and expand existing trails - informal trails exist with no maintenance occurring or reconstruction needed | none | none | Hellgate ³ Stratton Creek ⁴ | East Cliffs ¹ Matson to Ferry ² Hellgate ³ Stratton Creek ⁴ Buckhorn Mountain ⁶ Robert Dean ⁷ - Hellgate Bridge to Ash Gulch, Centennial Gulch to Argo Whitehorse Nature Trail ¹⁴ Umpqua Joe Trail ¹⁵ Mt. Peavine Trail ¹⁶ Rand Trail ¹⁷ Almeda Mine ¹⁸ Bailey Creek Falls ¹⁹ |
| Off highway vehicles (OHVs) designated trails | none | none | none | Stratton Creek ⁴ Robert Dean - Hellgate Bridge to Robert Dean Placer Mine (portions are located in and out of the corridor) |

¹East Cliffs Trail—Multiple use/day use only. Located right bank from Robertson Bridge area to an area across from Little Pickett Creek and return. This is a destination trail with high scenic vistas.

²Matson to Ferry Trail—Multiple use/day use only. This trail is located right bank from Matson Park to Ferry Park high on the ridge above the river.

³Hellgate Trail—Hiking only/day use & overnight. An existing trail which starts upstream of Hellgate Bridge on the left bank. The trail is used by anglers from Hellgate Bridge upstream to Hellgate Canyon.

⁴Stratton Creek Trail—Hiking/day use & overnight. An existing trail which starts downstream of the Hellgate Recreation Site on right bank. The trail is used by anglers from Hellgate Recreation Site downstream to Taylor Creek Gorge.

⁵Powerline Trail—Multiple use/day use & overnight. Accesses the Rogue River corridor right bank and travels between the Hog Creek area and Hellgate Recreation Site. New construction is required.

⁶Buckhorn Mountain Trail—Multiple use/day use & overnight. The trail starts on the south side of Merlin-Galice Road, a few hundred yards east of Hellgate Bridge and leads to a mining area on Buckhorn Mountain.

⁷Robert Dean Trail—Segments of the trail would be multiple use/day use & overnight and segments would be hiking/day use & overnight. combination of existing trails, roads, and mining ditches, and areas to be constructed.

Hellgate Bridge to Robert Dean Placer Mine—Multiple use/day use & overnight. Follows Robert Dean Placer Mine Road (#35-7-4.2) beginning at Hellgate Bridge and leading to Robert Dean Placer Mine. Trail needs reconstruction along the old road.

Robert Dean to Ash Gulch—Hiking only/day use & overnight. Follows an abandoned mining ditch from Robert Dean to Ash Gulch. Trail needs reconstruction along the ditch.

Ash Gulch to Centennial—Hiking/day use & overnight. Trail requires new construction.

Centennial to Argo—Hiking/day use & overnight. Reconstruction of old trails and along abandoned mining ditches.

Argo to Grave Creek—Hiking/day use & overnight. Trail needs new construction.

⁸Ferry Road Nature Trail—Hiking/day use only. Located

downstream of the Ferry Park boat ramp on river right. This loop trail involves new construction.

⁹Applegate Landing Nature Trail—Hiking/day use only. Located upstream of the Whitehorse Park boat ramp on river right. This loop trail requires new construction.

¹⁰Rainbow Trail—Hiking/day use only. An angler access trail from Rainbow Recreation Site upstream to Indian Mary Park, on river left.

¹¹Merlin-Grave Creek Bicycle Route—A designated bicycle lane along the Merlin-Galice Road from Merlin to Grave Creek.

¹²Flanagan Slough Interpretive Trail—Day use/hiking only.

Located on BLM land about 1.5 miles downstream from Griffin Park, on river left. This trail requires new construction.

¹³Galice Creek/Taylor Creek Trail—Multiple use/day use & overnight. Access points begin in the Rogue River corridor and travel up each creek to connect with the USFS China Creek Trail. The China Creek Trail provides a link between Taylor Creek and Galice Creek on USFS land.

¹⁴Whitehorse Nature Trail—Day use/hiking only. This existing trail begins in the day use area in Whitehorse Park near the picnic shelter and loops through both BLM and Josephine Co. Parks managed lands.

¹⁵Umpqua Joe Trail—Day use & overnight/hiking only. This trail presently exists on Josephine Co. Parks land across the Merlin-Galice Road from Indian Mary Park. There is a possibility of extending the existing trail through BLM-administered land (outside the river corridor) to link up with the USFS trail system leading to the Illinois River.

¹⁶Mt. Peavine Trail—Hiking/day use & overnight. Reconstruction of an old road that was used to travel from Merlin-Galice Road, near Bailey Creek, to Mt. Peavine Lookout.

¹⁷Rand Trail—Hiking/day use & overnight. Reconstruction of an old road beginning at Rand and ending at Mt. Peavine Lookout.

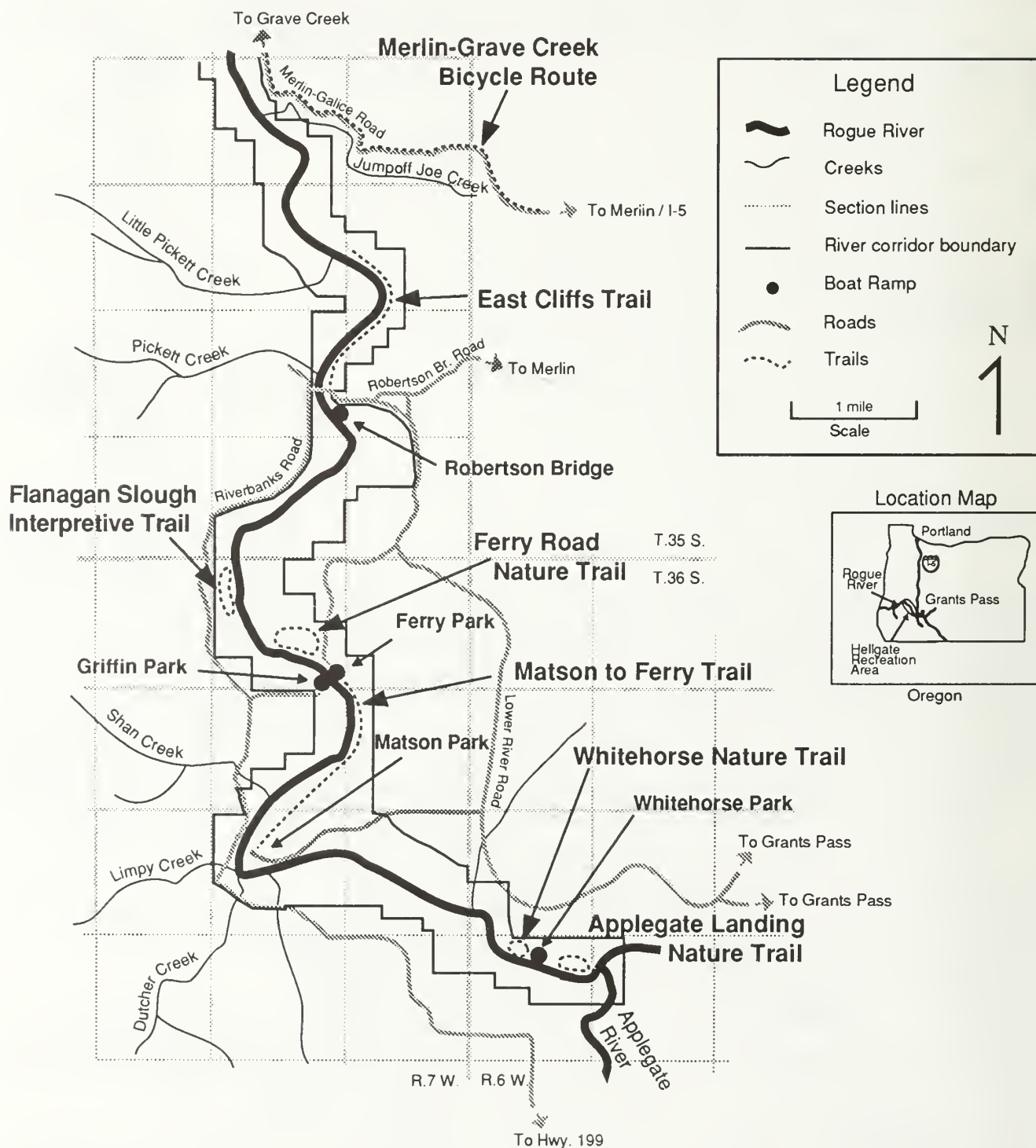
¹⁸Almeda Mine—Multiple use/day use & overnight. Reconstruction along an old road (Almeda Mine Road #34-7-8). The trail provides access to the Rogue River from a system of roads outside the river corridor.

¹⁹Bailey Creek Falls Trail—Hiking/day use. This destination trail begins south of Bailey Creek on Merlin-Galice Road and follows an old mining ditch up to Bailey Creek Falls.

Map 4

Potential Trails

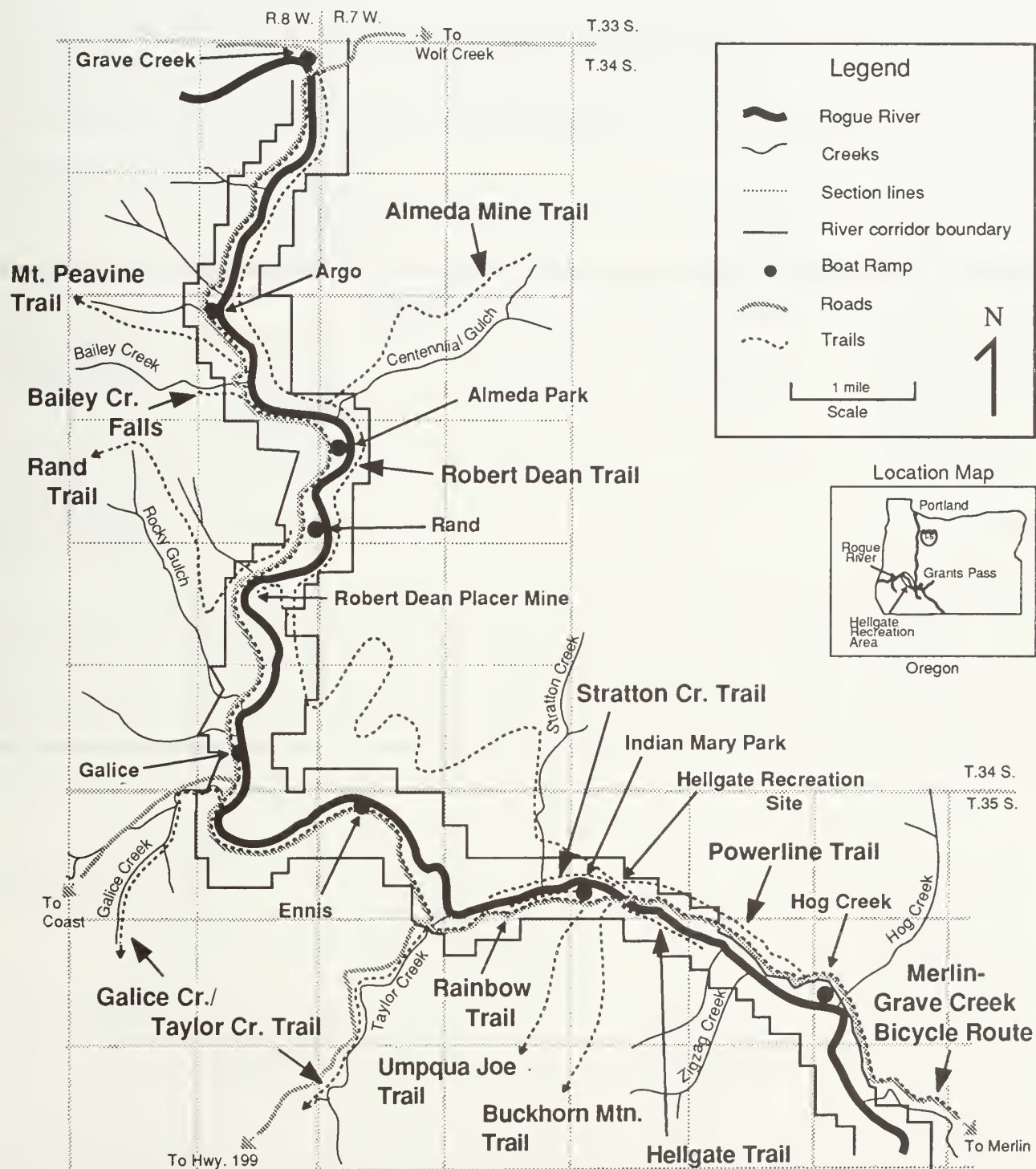
Rogue River: Applegate River to Jumpoff Joe Creek



Map 5

Potential Trails

Rogue River: Jumpoff Joe Creek to Grave Creek



3. Should There be Administrative and/or Visitor Center Sites and Where Should They be Located?

The Rand Recreation Area is identified in the current RAMP as the best site to provide a visitor information, campground and administration center as a hub for Rogue River visitors. The site could provide camping and day-use facilities, visitor information and permit administration for both wild and recreation section visitors.

A visitor center could provide educational and tourist information for people interested in the Hellgate Recreation Area. The center could focus on the entire Rogue River while at the same time providing information for tourists in southwestern Oregon. Information could include such themes as: the history of river navigation, Native American life along the river, mining history, the history of land use near the river, how to use the river safely, and ways to enjoy and appreciate the river today.

Should there be administrative and/or visitor center sites? What about the value of such sites at Hog Creek, Merlin, Grants Pass or other locations?

Table 6C - Issue F3 - Administrative and/or Visitor Center Sites

| Administrative and/or Visitor Center Sites | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| Administrative center ¹ | Merlin and Rand | Medford and Rand | Hog Creek and/or Rand | Grants Pass and/or Hog Creek |
| Visitor center ² | none | Rand | Hog Creek and/or Merlin | Grants Pass and/or Hog Creek and/or Merlin and/or Rand |

¹The center is the administrative headquarters of the Rogue River Program.

²A major visitor information center is open year around to provide on-site communications between BLM and the public regarding the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River. This interpretive center would function as a place where people may have their questions answered, as well as provide current information and news, visitor-use permits, and historical and resource related topics. This site would include a museum concerning the river's outstandingly remarkable values as well as other types of themes. See issue G2 for information on services and educational programs provided at each visitor center.

The existing minimal visitor center at Rand is identified for alternative B, but not considered a major center in its present design.

4. What Type of Day Use Areas Should be Provided?

The following day use activities are occurring now: fishing, gold panning, gold dredging, wildlife observation, rock hounding, picnicking, sightseeing, and photography. What type of day use recreational opportunities should be provided? Should there be more “watchable wildlife” sites? Should there be areas designated as wildlife reserves/no hunting areas? This could reduce the possibility of hunting accidents by keeping hunters away from residential areas and areas used by other recreationists.

According to the District’s law enforcement personnel any place BLM invites people to can be enforced as a no hunting area and it is illegal to shoot across the river (see map 2 and 3 for potential day use areas).

Table 6D - Issue F4 - Day Use Areas

| Day Use Areas | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| Develop new day use areas - this could include parking, toilets, picnic tables, trash cans, fish cleaning stations, and informational signs | none | Finley Bend Steelhead | Applegate Landing Finley Bend Griffin Lane Complex Hellgate Bridge area North Zigzag Creek Rogue Riffle Drive Steelhead | Almeda (BLM) Applegate Landing Finley Bend Flanagan Slough ¹ Griffin Lane Complex Hellgate Bridge area North Zigzag Creek Rogue Riffle Drive Steelhead |
| Improve existing day use areas -this could include parking, toilets, picnic tables, trash cans, fish cleaning stations, and informational signs | none | none | Argo Carpenter’s Island Chair Hellgate Park Rainbow Rand Robertson Bridge Rocky Bar | Argo Carpenter’s Island Chair Galice/Hellgate Back Country Byway Ferry Road River Front Hussey Lane Matson - Ferry (trail) Rainbow Rand Robert Dean Rocky Bar Stratton Creek |
| Acquire land - to open up new day use areas or add to day use areanone | none | none | Finley Bend Hussey Lane Taylor Creek Bar | Finley Bend Hussey Lane Matson to Ferry Taylor Creek Bar Whitehorse |
| New watchable wildlife sites - designate &/or develop | Flanagan Slough ¹ | none | none | Ferry Road River Front Flanagan Slough ¹ Griffin Park/Griffin Lane Complex |
| Off highway vehicle (OHV) use areas - BLM administered land open to OHV use | none | Griffin Rand Rocky Bar Whitehorse | none | Almeda Applegate Landing area Argo Flanagan Griffin Lane Complex Rand Robert Dean Rocky Bar Stratton Creek |
| Wildlife reserve/no hunting areas - designate and/or develop | Applegate Landing area Ferry Road River Front Flanagan Slough ¹ Griffin Lane Complex Griffin Park Whitehorse Park | none | Applegate Landing area Ferry Road River Front Flanagan Slough ¹ Griffin Lane Complex Griffin Park Hussey Lane Matson to Ferry Whitehorse Park | entire river corridor |

¹One idea presented for Flanagan Slough is to put a large parking area at the upriver end of the area (i.e., where the road breaks out of the timber and the topography is flatter) and allow only foot travel from that point. This idea includes rest rooms, hiking trails and educational information on wildlife and mining in the area.

5. What Action Should be Taken to Manage Public Access?

There are many launch and landing sites with crowding problems and rude behavior occurring during periods of high use. Are additional or improved boat ramps and fishing access sites needed? Should vehicular access be regulated?

Table 6E - Issue F5 - Public Access

| Boat Ramps, Fishing Access, and Vehicle Access | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| Improved boat ramps | none | none | Argo Grave Creek Griffin Hog Creek Rand | Argo Grave Creek Griffin Hog Creek Rand |
| New boat ramps | none | none | none | Jump-off Joe Dunn |
| New fishing access sites | none | Finley Bend Steelhead | Finley Bend Steelhead Jump-off Joe Taylor Bar | Finley Bend Steelhead Jump-off Joe Taylor Bar |
| Vehicle access regulated | no | no | no | yes ¹ |

¹A day use parking pass would be required for all vehicles on BLM-administered day use areas within the Hellgate Recreation Area.

G. Visitor Services

How should visitor services be provided?

1. What Level of Management Presence Should be Provided?

A BLM representative focusing on active interaction with visitors to BLM-administered land is the most labor intensive form of management presence. Other forms of management presence can be signs, brochures, staff available at facilities, media contacts, personnel speaking to groups (such as at schools and in campgrounds), and uniformed personnel carrying out duties other than visitor contacts.

Rising activity requires that use be monitored closely to ensure protection of the river's outstandingly remarkable values. A more visible management presence could help to ensure professional guiding services, visitor health and safety, enhance visitors' recreation experience, and decrease visitor conflicts. These improvements can occur by BLM making decisions based on information obtained through visitor contacts. Improvements can also occur through management presence providing education to visitors on subjects such as river safety, outdoor use ethics, permit requirements, commercial guide requirements, orientation, natural resources, and cultural resources.

For more information on management presence in the form of news media contacts, signs, brochures, staff available at facilities, and personnel speaking to groups see issue G.2.

Table 7A - Issue G1 - Management Presence

| Management Presence | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| Type of presence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BLM representative on the river • signs • brochures • guide workshops • news media • programs/talks (i.e., in schools and campgrounds) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BLM representative on the river • signs • brochures • news media | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BLM representative on the river • BLM representative available at a facility convenient to Hellgate Recreation Area river users • signs • brochures • news media • guide workshops¹ • programs/talks (i.e., in schools and campgrounds) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BLM representative on the river • BLM representative available at a facility convenient to Hellgate Recreation Area river users • signs • brochures • news media • guide workshops¹ • programs/talks (i.e., in schools and campgrounds) |
| Amount of time BLM representative should be on the river - personnel in the corridor with a focus of duties on visitor contacts on an 8 hour patrol | daily - on some portion of the 27 miles of river | 40% (1993 level) of the days during the peak season (June 15 - September 15) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of the days, on weekends and holidays during the peak seasons (June 15 - October 15 & February - March) • 20% of the days, on weekdays during the peak seasons (same as above) • 5% of the days during non-peak seasons | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of the days, on weekends and holidays during the peak seasons (June 15 - October 15 & February - March) • 50% of the days, on weekdays during the peak seasons (same as above) • 20% of the days during non-peak seasons |

Table 7A - Issue G1 - Management Presence (continued)

| Management Presence | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| Amount of time BLM representative should be available at a facility convenient to (Hellgate Recreation Section) river users (see issue F3) | 7 days/week | none | 7 days/week | 7 days/week |
| BLM provided guide workshops ¹ | yes | none | workshop for MTB operators | workshop for all guides - required |

¹BLM would provide specialized training to commercial guides and others regarding BLM management objectives, character of the recreation resource, river use guidelines, and other subjects relevant to use of the river resource. The purpose of the training would be to enlist the aid of all users in the management of the river corridor, thus expanding a management presence.

2. What Type of Educational Effort Should be Provided?

Education programs are intended to inform the public about river values. Tilden in 1957 defined interpretation to be an educational activity "...which attempts to reveal meanings and relationships through the use of original objects, by first hand experience and by illustrative media, rather than simply to communicate factual information."

Interpretive services can promote responsible visitor use by revealing information about geologic, botanical, zoological and cultural features of the area. Such services can shed light on management practices and how to enjoy the outdoors within an atmosphere of widely varying recreational activities. Educational programs are intended to reveal information that will help visitors gain respect for the resources, other visitors, and the managing agencies; thereby enhancing visitors' experiences, promoting wise use, and reducing visitor conflicts.

Table 7B - Issue G2 - Education Programs

| Education Programs | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| Safety - this would include such topics as: life jacket use, alcohol use, emergency procedures, sharing the river with motorized craft, fire prevention, etc. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures • news media - newspapers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures • visitor center - staff and brochure distribution • boat ramp traffic control • roving interpreter • news media - newspaper | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures • visitor center -staff, videos, slide shows, displays and brochure distribution • school programs • guide workshop • boat ramp traffic control • roving interpreter • news media - newspapers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures • visitor center - staff, videos, slide shows, displays and brochure distribution • school programs • programs/talks (i.e., in campgrounds and for civic groups) • guide workshop 1 • boat ramp traffic control • roving interpreter • news media - newspapers |

Table 7B - Issue G2 - Education Programs (continued)

| Education Programs | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Orientation - this would include such topics as: local recreation, how you can get there, and who can help you (i.e., guides, rental services, permit requirements, etc.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures • visitor center - staff and brochure distribution • boat ramp traffic control • roving interpreter • news media - newspapers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures • visitor center - staff, videos, slide shows, displays and brochure distribution • boat ramp traffic control • roving interpreter • news media - radio, TV, newspapers, magazine articles | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures • visitor center - staff, videos, slide shows, displays and brochure distribution • school programs • programs/talks (i.e., in campgrounds and for civic groups) • guide workshop • boat ramp traffic control • roving interpreter • news media - radio, TV, newspapers, and magazine articles |
| Outdoor use ethics - this would include "leave no trace" practices and courtesy to other visitors (i.e., at boat ramps, in congested areas, etc.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures • school programs • programs/talks (i.e., in campgrounds and for civic groups) • roving interpreter • news media - radio, TV, newspapers and magazine articles | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures • visitor center - staff, displays and brochure distribution • boat ramp traffic control • roving interpreter • news media - newspapers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures • visitor center - staff, videos, slide shows, displays and brochure distribution. • school programs • programs/talks (i.e., in campgrounds and for civic groups) • guide workshop • boat ramp traffic control • roving interpreter • news media - newspapers and magazine articles. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures • visitor center - staff, videos, slide shows, displays and brochure distribution. • school programs • programs/talks (i.e., in campgrounds and for civic groups) • guide workshop • boat ramp traffic control • roving interpreter • news media - radio, TV, newspapers and magazine articles |
| Heritage program - this would include topics such as: mining history, history of river navigation, Native American Life along the river, etc. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures • school programs • programs/talks (i.e., in campgrounds and for civic groups) • roving interpreter • news media - radio, TV, newspapers and magazine articles | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • visitor center - staff • roving interpreter | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures • visitor center - staff, displays and brochure distribution • school programs • programs/talks (i.e., in campgrounds and for civic groups) • roving interpreter • news media - radio, TV, newspapers and magazine articles | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures • visitor center - staff, videos, slide shows, displays and brochure distribution • school programs • programs/talks (i.e., in campgrounds and for civic groups) • guide workshop • roving interpreter • news media - radio, TV, newspapers and magazine articles |
| Natural resources - this would include such topics as: geology, plant life, animal life, forestry, natural resource management, fire prevention, etc. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures • school programs • programs/talks (i.e., in campgrounds and for civic groups) • roving interpreter • news media - radio, TV, newspapers and magazine articles | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • roving interpreter | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures • visitor center - staff, displays and brochure distribution • roving interpreter • news media - newspapers and magazine articles | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signing • brochures • visitor center - staff, videos, slide shows, displays and brochure distribution • school programs • programs/talks (i.e., in campgrounds and for civic groups) • guide workshop • roving interpreter • news media - radio, TV, newspapers and magazine articles |

¹See footnote number 1 in table 7A.

3. What Type of Partnerships Should be Formed?

What types of partnerships should be established to support management of the Hellgate Recreation Area? How can partnerships with individuals, groups, organizations, Josephine County, State of Oregon, and Federal agencies be best established? Partnerships could be sought with all interested stakeholders who have a common interest in a river resource or in some facet of management. Stakeholder understanding and ownership is especially important (e.g., ownership could promote the stewardship of river resources by the visitor). Partners can share in protecting resources and visitors, promoting wise use, and reducing conflicts between users or types of visitor use. How could partners share ownership, funding, staffing, and/or management of the Hellgate Recreation Area?

The BLM presently has many informal and formal partnerships with stakeholders (e.g., veteran projects, scouts involved in trails and other projects, Trout Unlimited river clean up and adopt a river segment, river annual river clean-up day participants, scenic easement landowners, outfitters, etc.).

Table 7C - Issue G3 - Partnerships

| Partnerships | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| Consultation with Hellgate section outfitters through annual meeting ¹ | yes | no | yes | yes |
| Coordination with Oregon State Marine Board ² | high | moderate | high | high |
| Coordination with Oregon Parks and Recreation Department ³ | high | high | high | high |
| BLM scenic easement program - consultation with private scenic easement landowners ⁴ | high | high | high | high |
| Consultation and coordination with user groups and organizations ⁵ | high | low to medium | high | high |
| Information package for first time river user ⁶ | minimal | minimal | high | high |
| Funding of recreational facilities ⁷ | administrative center | administrative center or campground | administrative center, visitor center, day use areas | administrative center, visitor center, campground, day use areas, driving tours, bike routes, trails |
| Staffing of recreational facilities ⁸ | administrative center | administrative center or campground | administrative center, visitor center, day use areas | administrative center, visitor center, campground, day use areas |
| Adopt a recreation site, river segment, or trail segment ⁹ | formal | informal | formal | formal |
| Gift catalog ¹⁰ | none | none | yes | yes |
| Private sector contracting ¹¹ | none | none | yes | yes |

¹Consultation with Hellgate Recreation Area outfitters would occur at the annual wild section meeting.

²Consultation and coordination with the Oregon State Marine Board is standard procedure. How can improvements be made?

³Consultation and coordination with the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department is standard procedure. How can improvements be made?

⁴BLM has a successful scenic easement program. How can scenic easement landowners be more active participants in management of the Hellgate Recreation Area?

⁵How could consultation and coordination with user groups be conducted (e.g., Grants Pass Chapter of Northwest Rafting Association, Hellgate Excursions, Inc., Middle Rogue Steelhead Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Northwest Powerboat Association, etc.).

⁶The Hellgate Recreation Area of the Rogue River has considerable use by inexperienced boaters. The BLM would work with boat rental companies and the Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) to develop and fund a user information program to increase the knowledge of first time river users and to reduce conflicts between river users.

⁷What are the possibilities of mutual funding or cost sharing of recreational facilities (e.g., land gifts, donations of dollars, etc.).

⁸What are the possibilities of mutual staffing of recreational facilities by organizations, agencies, or by volunteers?

⁹How can individuals, businesses, or organizations "adopt" a recreation site, river segment, or trail segment? What kind of recognition do these individuals or groups receive?

¹⁰A gift catalog would be developed which describes river management projects which are needed and could be purchased/funded by benefactors.

¹¹Some BLM functions could be contracted to the private sector (e.g., data processing, fee collections, etc.).

H. Law Enforcement

What levels and types of BLM river related law enforcement are necessary and/or appropriate?

Scoping thus far has indicated that the law enforcement effort, as it is presently structured, is insufficient to meet existing needs. Increased BLM law enforcement presence can help alleviate the following problems: illegal guides, trash dumping, violation of boating rules, river traffic management, and hazards with watercraft operation.

Table 8 - Issue H - Law Enforcement

| Law Enforcement Components | Alternative A Fewer watercraft & less visitor use | Alternative B Current management/no action | Alternative C Angler & floater enhancement/more watercraft & visitor use | Alternative D Maximum watercraft & visitor use |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| BLM river ranger assigned to Hellgate Recreation Area ¹ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • yes • all year | no | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • yes • all year | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • yes • all year |
| Contract deputy for Josephine County ² | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| Consultation/coordination with Josephine County marine deputy ³ | high | moderate | high | high |

¹The major variable for the law enforcement issue is the assignment of a full-time river ranger to the Hellgate Recreation Area.

²The Josephine County contract deputy is basically dedicated to road patrol and is not available for river management, but is available to respond to river emergencies.

³The Josephine County marine deputy enforces State law, but does not have the authority to enforce Federal statutes BLM day use area rules can only be enforced by a BLM ranger.

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Glossary

Access - The ability of recreationists to reach the areas in which they wish to recreate.

Alevin - Newly hatched salmon or trout with exterior yolk sac residing in the gravel prior to emergence to the stream.

Anadromous fish - Fish that are born and rear in freshwater, move to the ocean to grow and mature, and return to freshwater to reproduce. Salmon and steelhead are examples.

Annual daily schedule - An interim permit stipulation for MTBs requires an annual daily schedule to be set for MTB groups/runs at the beginning of each season. The schedule for the season of use must be provided to BLM by April 1 of each year. This schedule may not be varied without written permission. The purpose of the schedule is to inform other users of the approximate time MTBs will be passing certain points.

Applegate reach - see river reach.

Administrative rules - Regulations established by State agency boards and commissions in accordance with Oregon Revised Statutes.

Agricultural, commercial, or industrial sound generators - The sources of sound from agricultural, commercial, or industrial activities. These sound generators are a combination of equipment, facilities, operations, or activities employed in the production, storage, handling, sale, purchase, exchange, or maintenance of a product, commodity, or service.

Allocation - Decision about who can use the river and when. Allocation between uses is necessary when levels of use exceed the carrying capacity (e.g., acceptable limits, established standards, etc.). At that point not everyone that wants to use the river is able to.

Alternatives - Different options for management (see section IX).

Ambient noise - Sound which is persistent and normal within a given environment, usually being a composite of sounds from any source near and far.

Anchoring prohibited zone - An area of streambank where all floating watercraft are prohibited from anchoring except within 10 feet of the shoreline during the period August 1 through September 30. An anchoring prohibited zone may be established because of safety concerns or to enhance the angling experience of visitors.

Aquatic - Living or growing in or on the water.

Archaeological site - Geographic locale containing structures, artifacts, material remains, and/or other evidence of past human activity.

Artificial structures - Constructed cavities which provide shelter for wildlife, such as bird houses.

At-risk fish stocks - Stocks of anadromous salmon and trout that have been identified by professional societies, fish management agencies, and in the scientific literature as being in need of special management conditions because of low or declining populations.

Basic site protection measures - Engineering techniques designed to reduce or control recreation impacts. In campsites it could include tent pads, toilets, footpaths, steps, and vegetative plantings (also see campsite hardening).

BLM-administered lands - Any land or interest in land managed by the United States Government and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Bureau of Land Management.

Boat - All floating watercraft.

Boater - Any person who utilizes a floating watercraft for transportation on the surface of the river.

Boater pass - A permit required by BLM to launch, operate, or ride in any watercraft or engage in any camping, fishing, or other activity in connection with being transported by a boat within the Hellgate Recreation Area.

Campground, developed - An area designated a day-use and overnight site. It contains improvements for camper comfort and sanitary facilities such as toilets, drinking water, tables, or trash receptacles.

Camping - Outdoor living for recreation.

Campsite hardening - Measures taken to reduce camper impact on the natural resources, such as paving a footpath (also see basic site protection measures).

Campsite quality rating - The evaluation of the characteristics of a campsite such as size, slope, presence of shade, and overall desirability for human use.

Campsite rehabilitation - Measures taken to restore damaged campsites and to prevent further damage to natural resources, such as planting grass and shrubs.

Campsite, suitable - A site on which soil, vegetation, and slope conditions are capable of accommodating camping use without significant damage to the basic resources.

Campsite, undeveloped - An area designated a day-use and overnight site. It contains no improvements for camper comfort or sanitation.

Chemical spills - Accidental releases of chemical products which have the potential for damaging natural or human resources.

Client - A paying member of a guided or outfitted group.

Commercial use - The use of public lands and related waters for business or financial gain.

Conservation release season - The conservation release season for Applegate and Lost Creek reservoirs is from May 1 through October 31. Stream flow and temperature objectives for the conservation release season are primarily for fishery enhancement.

Conservation storage season - The conservation storage season for Applegate and Lost Creek reservoirs is from February 1 through April 30. Storage allocations during the conservation season total 180,000 acre feet (i.e., 125,000 acre feet for fishery enhancement, 35,000 acre feet for future irrigation needs, and 20,000 acre feet for future municipal and domestic water needs).

County lands - Any land or interest in land managed by Josephine County.

Cultural resources - Remains of human activity, occupation, or endeavor, reflected in archaeological or historic districts, sites, structures, buildings, objects, artifacts, ruins, works of art, architecture, and natural features that were of importance in past human activities and cultural practices. Cultural resources consist of: (1) physical remains;

(2) locations of significant human events in the past or locations for traditional cultural practices, even though physical evidence of those events and practices may not exist; and (3) those elements of the natural setting which contribute to a site's historic cultural significance.

Daily use - That time of the day when a permitted activity is prescribed to occur.

Day-use area, developed - An area designated as day-use only. It contains improvements for comfort and sanitary facilities such as toilets, drinking water, tables, or trash receptacles.

Day-use area, undeveloped - An area designated as day-use only. It contains no improvements for comfort or sanitation.

Day-use parking pass - An annual parking permit required by BLM when parking on BLM-administered day-use areas within the Hellgate Recreation Area.

Diversity - A measure of the variety of species and habitats in an area that takes into account the relative abundance of each species or habitat.

Dummy camps - Unoccupied campsites in which persons have left objects to give the appearance of occupancy, so that they can claim possession at a later time.

Dunn reach - See river reach.

Effects - Effects, impacts, and consequences are synonymous. Effects may be direct, indirect, or cumulative and may fall in one of the following categories: aesthetic, historic, cultural, economic, social, health, or ecological (such as the effects on natural resources and on the components, structures, and functioning of affected ecosystems).

Environmental analysis - An analysis of alternative actions and their predictable short-term and long-term environmental effects, incorporating physical, biological, economic, and social considerations.

Environmental impact statement (EIS) - A formal document filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that considers significant environmental impacts expected from implementation of Federal actions (i.e., alternatives or management options).

Ephemeral streams - Streams that contain running water only sporadically, such as during and following storm events.

Erosion - Detachment and movement of soil or rock fragments by water, wind, ice, gravity, people, watercraft, vehicles, etc.

Erosion sensitive areas - Riverbank areas prone to erosion.

Fall chinook sensitive areas - Areas where fall chinook spawn.

Fire protection - Wildfire prevention efforts usually include elements such as a public contact, patrol, sign posting, and regulated use closures. An example of a regulated use closure is the common requirement in southwest Oregon of allowing campfires only in areas maintained and designated as developed overnight camping areas.

First mate - Additional person on an MTB to assist the boat operator.

Fish-bearing streams - Any stream containing any species of fish for any period of time.

Float-in campsite - Reached by watercraft only. Maximum development would include pit toilets, fire pits, picnic tables, and trash cans. All float-in campsites would not necessarily have all the identified facilities. Minimum development would be a pit toilet.

Flood season - The major flood season is from November 1 through January 31.

Floodplain - Level lowland bordering a stream or river onto which the river flow spreads at flood stage.

Fry - After the alevins use up their yolk sac, they emerge from the gravel as tiny fish called fry. Only about an inch long, they stay in calm pools of water to search for food.

Grandfathered right - A right to use a public resource due to historical use and/or longevity.

Gravel recruitment - The downstream movement of gravel caused by high volume of water flow.

Ground cover - Grasses or other plants that keep soil from being blown or washed away.

Groups (runs) - An interim permit stipulation requires MTBs to be scheduled in groups, each MTB in the group is making one trip. Boats are grouped in runs to limit encounters with other users. Boats in runs should be 15 seconds to 2 minutes apart to accomplish this objective.

Group size - The number of people in a boating or camping party including guides and any support personnel.

Guide - A person who provides services by leading one or more persons in outdoor recreation activities for a fee.

Guide permit - A State license to carry out the activities of a guide.

Habitat - The type of environment in which certain plants or animals live.

Hellgate Recreation Area - A 27-mile corridor of the Rogue River from approximately its confluence with the Applegate River to Grave Creek. It was determined by Congress to meet the objectives for a recreational river in the National Wild and Scenic River System. There are approximately 5,500 acres of BLM-administered land within the corridor.

Historic site - Areas or sites relating to the European, American, and Asian immigrants to southwest Oregon.

Impact - A change in the environment caused by human activity (see effects).

Instream water right - A legal right to the use of water which remains in the stream, such as for fish, recreation, or pollution abatement.

Interdisciplinary team - a group of individuals with varying areas of specialty assembled to solve a problem or perform a task. The team is assembled out of recognition that no one scientific discipline is sufficiently broad enough to adequately analyze the situation and propose actions (see alternatives).

Interim stipulation - Interim stipulations were established in 1990 for the two MTB special recreation permits (MRP-208 and MRP-216). These stipulations were part of the permits, on an interim basis, pending the completion of an in-depth study of jet boat use on the Rogue River within the Hellgate Recreation Area.

Intermittent stream - Any nonpermanent flowing drainage feature having a definable channel and evidence of annual scour or deposition. This includes what are sometimes referred to as ephemeral streams if they meet these two criteria.

Interpretive services - Methods used to put information into a form that visitors are able and willing to understand.

Issue - A subject or question of widespread public discussion or interest regarding management of a geographic area which has been identified through public participation.

Josephine County noise advisory committee - In 1993 the Josephine County Board of Commissioners requested that the Environmental Health Department prepare a county noise control ordinance for their consideration. The purpose of this ordinance is to promote the public peace, health, safety, and general welfare which the Board of County Commissioners finds to be adversely affected by unreasonably loud or raucous noises. A noise committee was formed and has been active in reviewing public concerns and resource information as they develop a proposed noise control ordinance.

Landing site - The riverbank location where boats are taken from the river.

Launch site - The riverbank location where boats are placed on or removed from the river.

Mitigating measures - Measures that (1) avoid impacts by not taking a certain action or parts of an action; (2) minimize impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation; (3) rectify impacts by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; (4) reduce or eliminate impacts over time by preservation and maintenance activities during the life of the action; or (5) compensate for impacts by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

Limited entry system - A system in which the number of visitors in any activity is limited to meet certain management objectives.

Management objectives - Parameters or goals to be used as standards to measure or monitor the success of the management plan.

Management presence - Information that makes it obvious to a visitor which agency is managing an area. The most common form of management presence is on-site uniformed personnel.

Monitoring - A process of collecting information to evaluate if objectives and anticipated or assumed results of a management plan are being realized or if implementation is proceeding as planned.

Motorized boating - Boating with the use of watercraft having a motor, regardless of the horsepower rating (see nonmotorized boating).

Motorized fishing boat (MFB) - Motorized fishing craft carrying paying passengers. The boat operator is usually in an "operator of an uninspected passenger vessel" (OUPV). A "six pack" or an OUPV license is required of fishing guides or charter vessel operators to carry six or fewer paying passengers. The U.S. Coast Guard issues the licenses.

Motorized tour boat (MTB) - Means any motorized tour boat carrying over six paying passengers. An MTB operator must have at least a "limited master's" license issued by the U.S. Coast Guard. All MTBs have been issued a certificate of inspection (COI) by the Coast Guard. The COIs state the condition that MTBs must satisfy in order to comply with applicable laws, rules, and regulations relating to safe construction, equipment, manning, and operation and that they are in a seaworthy condition for the services in which they are operated.

Motorboat sound levels - The exhaust of every internal combustion engine used on any motorboat shall be effectively muffled at all times in accordance with Oregon Revised Statutes.

Motor vehicle - Any self-propelled vehicle. Motor vehicle includes motorized boats and aircraft.

Multiple use - The harmonious use of land or water resources for more than one purpose (e.g., angling, floating, motorized boating, etc.).

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) - An act passed in 1969 to declare a national policy that encourages productive and enjoyable harmony between humankind and the environment, promotes efforts that prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere, stimulates the health and welfare of humanity, enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the nation, and establishes a Council on Environmental Quality.

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) - The official list, established by the Historic Preservation Act of 1966, of the nation's cultural resources worthy of preservation.

National Wild and Scenic Rivers System - A system of Congressionally designated rivers and their immediate environments that have outstanding scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, and other values and are preserved in a free-flowing condition. The system has three classifications (1) Recreation—rivers or sections of rivers readily accessible by road or railroad that may have some development along their shorelines and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past; (2) Scenic—rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments with shorelines or watersheds still largely undeveloped but accessible in places by roads; and (3) Wild—rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments and generally inaccessible, except by trails, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and water unpolluted.

The outstandingly remarkable values identified for the Hellgate Recreation Area are the natural scenic environment, fisheries resource, and recreational opportunities. While not specifically singled out by Congress, Federal managers consider the wildlife and cultural resources in the area to be significant.

Native species - Plants or animals that are native to an area.

Noise sensitive property - Residential property or property used for schools, churches, hospitals, or public libraries. Property used in agricultural, commercial, or industrial activities is not noise sensitive property unless it meets the above criteria in more than an incidental manner.

Noise standards - Measurements of sound which are used to determine when that sound becomes obnoxious to human ears.

Noncommercial - Activities in which there is a bona fide sharing of the cost of the activity between all participants (see private use).

Nonmotorized boating - Boating with the use of a watercraft without a motor of any type (see motorized boating).

No-trace visits - The art of angling, camping, motorboating, or sightseeing without leaving signs of use.

No-wake zone - An area where boat speed is reduced to minimize boat wake, with a 5 mph maximum speed.

Noxious weed - A plant specified by law as being especially undesirable, troublesome, and difficult to control.

Number of trips - Number of trips refers to watercraft trips. Number of trips is part of alternative design. Number of trips means round trips for MTBs, either one-way or round trips for other motorized watercraft, and one-way trips for nonmotorized float craft.

Number of visitors - The number of visitors is not part of alternative design (see visitor use).

Notice display - An interim stipulation for MTBs requires a notice display. The lead MTB of each group/run is to display a notice, legible from both riverbanks, clearly indicating the number of boats in the group or number of boats following. The purpose of the display is to inform other users of the number of boats in a group.

Off-highway vehicle (OHV) - Any motorized vehicle capable of, or designed for, travel on or immediately over land, water, or other natural terrain, excluding emergency vehicles, and vehicles in official use.

Off plane areas - An interim stipulation for MTBs requires the boats to be off plane (slowed) in Hellgate Canyon. Other off plane areas may be identified during the planning process.

On-site management - Regulations, restrictions, or controls which limit or influence how people use an area or resource.

Oregon scenic waterways - The Oregon Scenic Waterways Act was established by a citizens' initiative in 1970. An 84-mile reach of the Rogue River, from the Applegate River downstream to Lobster Creek Bridge, was one of the original six scenic waterways. Administration of scenic waterways, which includes a distance of 1/4 mile from each riverbank, is mandated to maintain the existing character of the river environment. This includes protecting and/or enhancing the special attributes of the river corridor with primary emphasis placed on aesthetic, scenic, fish and wildlife, scientific, and recreational features.

Outfitter - A commercial dealer providing guides, equipment, or supplies for trips (e.g., angling, camping, fishing, floating, etc.).

Outstandingly remarkable values - Values among those listed in section 1(b) of the Wild and Scenic River Act: "scenic recreational, geological, fish and wildlife, historical, cultural, or other similar values...." Other similar values which may be considered include ecological, biological or botanical, paleontological, hydrological, scientific, or research values.

Paleontological resource - Remnants of life from past geological ages as seen in fossils of plants and animals.

Partnerships - Two or more individuals or groups in cooperation with one another because of a common interest in a river resource or in some facet of management. Partners can share in issue identification, inventories and studies, alternatives, ownership, funding, and management of the Hellgate Recreation Area (see alternatives, stakeholders, and National Wild and Scenic River System).

Pass-through zone - A defined length of the river where all floating watercraft are prohibited from anchoring, stopping, or holding during the period August 1 through September 30. Pass-through zones are established to enhance the safe navigation of all watercraft in an area.

Performance evaluation - An evaluation conducted by BLM on the professional performance of a permittee (outfitter) as a means of assuring compliance with permit stipulations and regulations concerning public safety.

Perennial stream - A stream that typically has running water on a year-round basis.

Permittee - An outfitter who holds a permit from BLM to use BLM-administered land or water for financial gain.

Permit system - A method of allotting use of a public resource through issuance of permits.

Personal watercraft - Jet skis are referred to as "personal watercraft" by OSMB and their use is prohibited in the Hellgate Recreation Area.

Plan objectives - Guiding statements or goals that present the purposes and overall intent of the planning effort.

Planning area - Hellgate Recreation Area.

Prehistoric - Generally refers to the time before written records; in Oregon this term specifically refers to the history of Native American peoples before the Euro-American arrival.

Prescribed fire - A fire burning within an approved, predefined, and planned prescription. The fire may result from either a planned or natural ignition. When a prescribed fire exceeds the prescription and/or planned perimeter, it may be declared a wildfire.

Private use - The private use of public lands and related waters in which there is no business involvement or financial gain (see noncommercial).

Private motorized boating - Noncommercial motorized boating.

Public contact person - An individual assigned to provide information to the public in person.

Public lands and related waters - Lands and interest in lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management. Related waters are waters which lie directly over or adjacent to public lands and require some management control to protect Federally administered resources or to provide for enhanced visitor safety (see BLM-administered lands).

Racing-motorboat testing areas - There are two racing-motorboat testing areas within the Hellgate Recreation Area (i.e., a primary area is _ mile upstream from Finley Bend to a point approximately 1 mile above the mouth of the Applegate River; the secondary area is between Flanagan's Slough and Finley Bend).

Recreation - Use of leisure time to provide personal satisfaction and enjoyment and contribute to the “renewal” and “refreshment” of one’s body, mind, and spirit.

Recreation opportunity spectrum (ROS) - A continuum used to characterize recreation opportunities in terms of setting, activity, and experience opportunities. The spectrum covers a range of recreation opportunities from primitive to urban. With respect to river management planning, ROS represents one possible method for delineating management units or zones.

Recreation site - A setting which provides an opportunity for recreation.

Right-of-way - A permit or easement which authorizes a specific use of a specific area of land.

Riparian area/zone - Those terrestrial areas where the vegetation complex and microclimate conditions are products of the combined presence and influence of perennial and/or intermittent water, associated high water tables, and soils that exhibit some wetness characteristics. Normally used to refer to the zone within which plants grow rooted in the water table of rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, reservoirs, springs, marshes, seeps, bogs, and wet meadows.

River community areas - River community areas within the Hellgate Recreation Area include platted subdivisions and plotted tracts existing in 1970. These areas are managed under the Oregon Scenic Waterways system.

River ranger - A uniformed person with citation authority assigned to do law enforcement on BLM-administered land or water within the Hellgate Recreation Area.

River reach - For purpose of analysis and management, the Hellgate Recreation Area is divided into two river reaches. The Applegate reach is the upper river stretch, at the start of the Hellgate Recreation Area (a small distance upstream of the Applegate River) to Dunn Riffle (between the downstream side of Hellgate Canyon and the start of Dunn Riffle). The Dunn reach is the lower river stretch from Dunn Riffle to the Grave Creek Boat Landing.

Rogue River studies program - A comprehensive studies program including contracted and agency inventories and studies. The studies program represents the “facts” of the planning process to revise the Hellgate Recreation Area Management Plan.

Roving interpreter - Uniformed personnel sharing information with visitors in a recreation area. This is similar to a “public contact person.”

Sac-fry - See alevin.

Safety sites of concern - Areas on the river where boating safety concerns have been identified.

Sanitation facilities - Installations of buildings or other structures which ease the disposition or collection of human waste (e.g., pit toilets, septic systems, vault toilets, etc.).

Scoping - The process by which significant issues relating to a proposal are identified. It includes eliciting public comment, evaluating concerns, and developing issues and alternatives for consideration (see section VIII).

Season of use - That part of the year when a permitted activity is prescribed to occur.

Sediment - Soil, rock particles, and organic or other debris carried from one place to another by wind, water, or gravity.

Sensitive wildlife habitat - Habitat, such as riparian areas, which are crucial to wildlife for nesting, rearing, feeding, or cover.

Shuttle driver - A person who shuttles people or equipment (e.g., equipment, personal vehicles, watercraft, etc.) for a fee.

Shuttle service - The hauling of people, boats, vehicles, or other equipment for a fee.

Socioeconomic impacts - Employment and income effects of different management options (see alternatives).

Sound level - Weighted sound levels measured by use of calibrated meters and reported as dBA (decibels).

Sound management area - Area where sound is managed.

Special motorized boating uses - Special motorized boating uses are normally competitive watercraft events such as the Memorial Day hydroplane races.

Stakeholders - Individuals or groups with an interest in a river resource or in some aspect of river management (see partnerships and National Wild and Scenic River System).

State lands - Land or interest in land managed by a government agency for the State of Oregon.

Stewardship - The exercise of responsible care of land, water, other natural resources, or recreational resources, such as a campsite.

Streamflow levels and instream water rights - Minimum streamflows and instream water rights can be set to minimize the effects of pollution and for maintaining recreational uses. Minimum streamflows were set for the Rogue River, including the Hellgate Recreation Area, for recreation, fish, and wildlife.

Threatened or endangered species - Endangered species are defined as those likely to become extinct within all or a significant portion of their range. Threatened species are those likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future.

Federal listed terrestrial species which roost, forage, and nest in the vicinity of the Hellgate Recreation Area include the bald eagle, spotted owl, and the peregrine falcon. Rogue River coho salmon are a State of Oregon sensitive species. The National Marine Fisheries Service is conducting status reviews of coastal coho salmon and coastal steelhead under the Endangered Species Act. Status reviews determine if listing is warranted.

Thrill power maneuvers - Powerboat maneuvers that are not necessary for navigation and are conducted to enhance the passengers' experience.

Traditional uses - Uses reflecting the types of recreational activities occurring in 1968 when the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act was passed.

Turbidity - The quality or state of being turbid, cloudy, unclear; having sediment or foreign particles stirred up or suspended.

User fee - A fee incurred by the visitor for the cost of managing the recreational river resources and providing facilities.

Viability - The ability of a wildlife or plant population to maintain a specific population for a specified period.

Viable population - A wildlife or plant population that contains an adequate number of reproductive individuals appropriately distributed to ensure the long-term existence of the species.

Visitor services - Emphasis is on protecting and maintaining resources, protecting visitors, promoting wise use, reducing conflicts between users or types of use, encouraging visitor cooperation and involvement in managing public lands, and increasing visitor understanding and support of multiple-use management.

Visitor use - The number and type of visitors, both commercial and private, to the Hellgate Recreation Area.

Water quality - The chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of water with respect to its suitability for a particular use.

Wetlands - Areas that are inundated by surface water or ground water with a frequency sufficient to support vegetative or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction. Wetlands generally include, but are not limited to, swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.

Wildfire - Any wild land fire that does not meet management objectives; thus requiring a fire suppression response. Once declared a wildfire, the fire can no longer be declared a prescribed fire.

Dear Friend of the Rogue River,

We would like to hear from you. This response form is designed to make it quick and easy for you to submit your comments to us. If you wish to comment at greater length, please write to the address on the back.

After you complete the response form, fold it in half with the return address showing, staple it and place a stamp on it. Please complete the return address on the back so we can put your name on our mailing list to receive future planning documents.

1. This report discusses many different issues for management of the river, and presents several alternative management options for each. How satisfied are you with how the report addresses the issues for each of the alternatives? Place one of the following numbers in each of the boxes to show your level of satisfaction with how an issue was treated under every alternative.

1. Very Satisfied 2. Somewhat Satisfied 3. Dissatisfied 4. Not Familiar With the Issue

| | | Alternative | Alternative | Alternative | Alternative |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | A | B | C | D |
| A. | Motorized boating | [] | [] | [] | [] |
| B. | Float boating | [] | [] | [] | [] |
| C. | Commercial services or activities | [] | [] | [] | [] |
| D. | User fees | [] | [] | [] | [] |
| E. | Fishing experience | [] | [] | [] | [] |
| F. | Recreational opportunities | | | | |
| 1. | Camping | [] | [] | [] | [] |
| 2. | Trails | [] | [] | [] | [] |
| 3. | Administrative/Visitor Center sites | [] | [] | [] | [] |
| 4. | Day use areas | [] | [] | [] | [] |
| 5. | Public access | [] | [] | [] | [] |
| G. | Visitor Services | | | | |
| 1. | Management presence | [] | [] | [] | [] |
| 2. | Educational/ interpretive services | [] | [] | [] | [] |
| 3. | Partnerships | [] | [] | [] | [] |
| H. | Law enforcement | [] | [] | [] | [] |

If you are dissatisfied with the way any particular issues are addressed, please explain why. (Use the letters from the list above to indicate which issues you are discussing.)

2. If you could make one change in the existing management of the river, what would it be?

3. Which of the following activities have you done within the Hellgate Recreation Area in the past year? (Check all that apply)

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Fishing | [] |
| Horseback riding | [] |
| Hiking | [] |
| Camping | [] |
| Used a nonmotorized float boat | [] |
| Used a private motorized boat | [] |
| Passenger on a motorized tour boat | [] |
| Other _____ | [] |

4. Did you use a professional guide for any of these activities?

YES []

NO []

I AM A GUIDE []

5. Comments or suggestions about the planning process.

Thank you for your input. Please fold the response form, staple it, place a stamp on it, and drop it in the mail.

----- fold here -----

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